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A CHAPTER IN ENGLISH CHURCH HISTORY.

S. P. C. K.

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE, 1698—1704.

EDITED BY THE
REV. EDMUND McCLURE, M.A.

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Chapter in English Church History:

BEING

THE MINUTES

OF THE

Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge

FOR THE YEARS

1698—1704

TOGETHER WITH

ABSTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS

DURING PART OF THE SAME PERIOD.

EDITED BY THE

REV. EDMUND McCLURE, M.A.

Editorial Secretary of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE TRACT COMMITTEE.

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PREFACE.

THE direct antecedents of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge were no doubt the Religious Societies founded in London and Westminster about the year 1678, and the Societies for Reformation of Manners which originated about 1691. The former of these, as their historian, Dr. Woodward, records, were begun by a number of young men whose minds had been stirred by the awakening sermons of Dr. Horneck (of the Savoy), and of Dr. Smithies (curate of St. Giles, Cripplegate), and who thereupon began to meet weekly for religious conference and mutual edification. "The first design of those who joined in this religious fellowship looked no farther," as Dr. Woodward relates, "than the mutual assistance and consolation one of another in their Christian warfare," "but as their sense of the blessedness of religion and the value of immortal souls increased," they endeavoured to press upon their acquaintances "those divine arguments whereby themselves had been roused out of a state of carnal insensibleness." Soon after their establishment there were, it is stated, forty-two of these Religious Societies in London and Westminster alone, and similar associations were formed before long in the chief towns throughout the kingdom. The members of these Religious Societies were all zealously attached to the Church of England, and their rules and orders were drawn up in accordance with the Prayer-book. The Societies for the Reformation of Manners, on the other hand, were composed of Nonconformists as well as Churchmen, and confined themselves chiefly to putting the law into operation against "Prophaneness and Debauchery." A common zeal, however, on behalf of public

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morality actuated both these forms of Societies, and the members of both were often found united wherever prevailing vices called for correction, or the reformation of manners was concerned.

Both these Societies were the outcome of the reaction from the excesses of the reign of Charles II., and their successes in the recovery of public morality led finally to the establishment of a Society which, while working on the lines of both, should take a wider field, and endeavour, by the promotion of Christian knowledge everywhere, to dissipate the gross ignorance of Christian principles which had resulted, according to the opinion of the founders, in the then prevailing vice and immorality. Founded in the year 1698, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge soon associated with it in its work numbers of zealous men in all parts of the country. The many-sided character of that work, and the obstacles which had to be overcome in carrying it out, are revealed to a large extent in the Society's Minutes, and the Abstracts of Letters which are here published.

The time covered by the Minutes now printed extends from the first meeting of the Society on Wednesday, March 8, 1698–99, till Thursday, June 1, 1704, and the Abstract of Letters from Nov. 22, 1699, till Nov., 1701.

Although the period dealt with is a short one, there is sufficient material in this volume to give us a fair idea of the state of the Church of England at the time, and not a little information upon the condition of society generally.

The Society's first effort, as will be seen, was to furnish a Christian education to the young, being persuaded, as the form of subscription to schools states, "That the growth of vice and debauchery is greatly owing to the gross ignorance of the principles of the Christian religion." Nearly every meeting is concerned with the establishment of charity-schools throughout the country, and the number set up by the instrumentality of the Society during these five years bears ample testimony to its zeal in this important work. The frontispiece, reproduced from an

old print, shows what a goodly array of charity-school children could be got together a few years after the foundation of the Society, and testifies at the same time to the importance of this school work in the eyes of the nation by associating such a manifestation with a Royal procession. The object of these schools was briefly to teach poor children "to read and write, and to repeat and understand the Church Catechism," and thus to provide that the youth of the country should not grow up without a corrective to the prevailing bad example.

But while thus providing a solid basis for the welfare and progress of the coming generation, the Society did not neglect the spiritual needs of the time. One of the main branches of the Society's design was "the reclaiming of those among us who entertain opinions inconsistent with the fundamentals of our holy religion" (p. 45); and one sees in the efforts to convert the Quakers, who, to quote Dr. Bray's words, "may be looked upon as a heathen nation," and in the attention given to repressing Popery, how the Society kept this object well in view.

The spiritual needs of the Plantations in North America and the West Indies, the reformation of Newgate and other prisons (p. 48), the regulation of playhouses, the establishment of libraries both at home and in America, the circulation of religious books and papers throughout the country, and among the army and navy, the relief of the pitiable condition of the Huguenots in the French galleys, are among the many things which engrossed the interest of the Society at its very beginning. But its concerns were truly world-wide. It had entered early into correspondence with the representatives of the Reformed Religion in Switzerland, at Halle, at the Hague, and elsewhere on the Continent; it had taken into consideration during its second year proposals relating to the instruction of the Greek Christians (p. 101); it had begun at the same time translating into foreign languages (Welsh, Dutch, Arabic, Greek) works of a religious character; it displayed early an anxiety for supplies of Dutch books to the Dutch inhabitants of New York, and an equal concern in the spiritual needs of the

English merchants residing at Archangel and Moscow (p. 232), as well as about the seamen of the large fleet engaged in the Levant trade (p. 231); and, indeed, extended its interest to almost every part of the world. It is not too much to say that during the first five years of its existence the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had grappled with almost every great public evil, and shown by its many-sided efforts the catholicity of its sympathies and the broad comprehensiveness of its work.

In the ABSTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE we have much incidental light thrown upon the spiritual condition and contemporary manners of England. It is significant of the times, for instance, that nine clergy of Alnwick Deanery (p. 321) "engaged themselves mutually and solemnly to prosecute their duties, 1st, in catechising young people; 2nd, by administering y^e^ Holy Sacram^t^ 4 times a year," &c. The wide prevailing indifference to religious matters is again and again indicated in these Abstracts, while the success of the Society's efforts in overcoming it is no less frequently brought forward. Thus, while the Rev. Samuel Wesley (father of John and Charles Wesley), writing from Epworth, 16 June, 1701, complains of the pitiable condition of his parish, in which "not one in twenty can say the Lord's Prayer right, nor one in thirty the Belief," Archdeacon Booth (a constant correspondent), writing from Durham, 6 June, 1701, is able to report as the result of recent efforts, that there is in his jurisdiction "catechising in every church, and prayers on Holy Days, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and in some places daily" (p. 342). The interest in spiritual matters roused throughout the country by the Society is fully witnessed to by these letters, and, considering the times, is truly wonderful.

Some amusing incidents occur here and there in this correspondence. As illustrating naval discipline in the days of Benbow, for instance, there is a record of a chaplain on board the *Barfleur*, at Spithead, writing (p. 334) to the Secretary, April 28, 1701, "That a captain has commanded him in the middle of a sermon to leave off in the king's name, and that he

has desired him in God's name to sit down and hear him," &c. Another chaplain writing from the ship *Salisbury*, Feb. 22, 1701. "As to the reformation of the seamen, recommends the gift of a little tobacco to be joined to good advice and instruction, which being done with a due air of concern will have wonderful effects." These abstracts of letters, indeed, contribute enough matter to form a chapter of English Church history, and much additional light will be obtained from them as to Church matters at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

Of these Minutes and Abstracts of Letters there are two or three MSS. copies in the Society's possession. The Editor has used the copy which seemed to him the more ancient, correcting doubtful passages from the others. The spelling and arrangement of the MSS. have been followed.

An effort has been made to identify the members who took part in the Society's early work, and to throw light here and there upon the text, and in these and other respects the Editor is indebted for valuable help to the Rev. Canon W. Cooke, Rev. Prebendary Hodson, Mr. Richard B. Prosser, and others.

July, 1888.

ERRATUM.

Page 72, *for* Edmund Holley, *read* Edmund Halley.

THE

JOURNAL OF THE S.P.C.K.

[This Preamble was approved at the meeting of the 19th April, 1699, and it was then "ordered that every Member of the Society do subscribe the same." Several of the subscribers here given were not elected Members for some time after this date; the last about 1701.—ED.]

Whereas the growth of vice and immorality is greatly owing to gross ignorance of the principles of the Christian religion, wee whose names are underwritten do agree to meet together, as often as we can conveniently, to consult (under the conduct of the Divine Providence and assistance) how we may be able by due and lawfull methods to promote Christian Knowledge.

Guilford [1]	Gideon Harvey [5]	E. Turner [9]
J. Hooke [2]	Henry Shute [6]	J° Comyns [10]
H. Mackworth [3]	Jn° Chamberlayne [7]	W. Melmoth [11]
Thomas Bray [4]	Rich[d] Bath & Wells [8]	Tho. Bromefield

[1] Son of the celebrated Sir Fras. North, afterwards First Baron Guilford, one of the great legal luminaries of England.

[2] Sergeant Hooke, born at Drogheda, Ireland, 1655; died 1722. See, for biographical sketch, Woolrych's "Lives of Eminent Sergeants."

[3] Sir Humphrey Mackworth, author of "A Discourse by Way of Dialogue concerning Providence," &c. London: 1705.

[4] Thomas Bray, D.D., born at Martin, Shropshire, 1656, sent by Bp. of London to Maryland to model the church there; appointed to St. Botolph, Aldgate, London, 1706; died 1730. One of the most energetic members of the Society. He founded "Associates of Dr. Bray," which Society still carries on the work for which it was established.

[5] Celebrated physician. Physician to the Tower thirty years.

[6] Rev. H. Shute, Lecturer of Whitechapel.—See 9 May, 1699.

[7] John Chamberlayne, F.R.S., a man of great linguistic acquirements. He was the translator of Osterwald's "Arguments," Nieuwentyt's "Religious Philosopher"; died 1723.

[8] Richard Kidder, D.D., intruded Bp. of Bath and Wells, died 1703. Distinguished for his knowledge of Oriental languages; author of a "Demonstration of the Messias," and several other works.

[9] Sir Edmund Turner. He is mentioned in Bishop Mant's "Feriæ Anniversariæ," p. 232. He writes to Secretary of S.P.G. from "Stoke, near Post Wytham, in Lincolnshire, 17 Aug., 1702."

[10] Jno. Comyns, admitted at Lincoln's Inn 1683.—See Register, fo. 96.

[11] W. Melmoth, a learned Bencher and Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, born 1666, died 1743. Author of "The Great Importance of a Religious Life Considered."

Sam[l]. Brewster [12]	W[m] Mecken [20]	Rich. Willis [27]
Tho. Frank [13]	John Hodges [21]	White Kennett [28]
Edw[d] Gloucester [14]	Ja. Davies [22]	Thomas Clarke
Fred. Slare [15]	Jos. Neale	Dutton Seaman
R. Nelson [16]	Ric. King [23]	Whit. Bulstrode [29]
John Evans [17]	John B[p] of Chichester [24]	Tho. Manningham [30]
J. Philipps [18]	W. Hayley [25]	Charles Torriano [31]
W[m] Farrer [19]	Geo. Wheler [26]	W. Lloyd [32]

[12] Of Lincoln's Inn; author of "Jus Feciale Anglicanum."

[13] Mr. Thos. Frank, of Bedfordshire.

[14] Edward Fowler, Bp. of Gloucester in 1691, born 1632, died 1714, originally a Presbyterian. Author of "The Design of Christianity," which was attacked by Bunyan.

[15] Fredk. Slare, M.D., F.R.S., a celebrated physician, born in Northamptonshire, and created M.B. at Oxford 1680; F.R.S. same year; Fellow of Royal College of Physicians 1685. Died 1727.

[16] Robert Nelson, born 1656, died 1715. His "Companion for the Festivals and Fasts" is still on the S.P.C.K. list. He was elected a Member of the Society June 22, 1699.

[17] Dr. John Evans, auditor S.P.G., 1701.

[18] Sir Jno. Philipps. Introduced a Bill into Parliament to naturalise foreign Protestants. He lived at Pirton, as appears by a letter to S.P.G.

[19] William Farrer, of Brayfield, near Olney, barrister-at-law, Inner Temple.

[20] J. W. Mecken (see p. 31), Chaplain to the Prince of Denmark.

[21] First Treasurer of S.P.G.

[22] Jno. Davies, Rector of Uffington, near Stanford.

[23] Mr. Richard King, of Exeter.

[24] John Williams, Bp. of Chichester in 1696, born 1634, died 1709. Delivered the Boyle Lectures.

[25] W. Hayley, D.D., Dean of Chichester, and Rector of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields.

[26] Sir Geo. Wheler, D.D., born at Breda, 1650 (where his parents were in exile with Charles); died 1724. Author of "A Protestant Monastery," &c.

[27] Richard Willis, Dean of Lincoln; afterwards successively Bishop of Gloucester, 1715; Salisbury, 1721; and Winchester, 1723; died 1734. Author of "Thanksgiving for Disappointing the Pretender," London, 1715, and several other Sermons.

[28] White Kennet, D.D., minister of St. Botolph, Aldgate; afterwards Bp. of Peterboro', born 1660, died 1728. Author of several works on Convocation and on Antiquities.

[29] Whitelocke Bulstrode, barrister-at-law, son of Sir Richard Bulstrode, born 1650, died 1724. Author of "An Essay on Transmigration, in Defence of Pythagoras." London: 1692, &c. His father died in exile with James II., 1711, aged 101 years.

[30] Thomas Manningham, D.D., made Bishop of Chichester 1709, died 1722. Author of several Sermons published from 1692 to 1709.

[31] Charles Torriano, merchant in London. He and his brother, Alex. Torriano, Professor of Astronomy, Gresham College, were grandsons of Rev. Alex. T. Torriano, who settled in England about 1620. Some of their descendants are still living.

[32] W. Lloyd, son of the Bp. of Worcester. Elected 21 Nov., 1700. See p. 91.

Row. Cotton [33]	Ri. Blackmore [40]	Tho. Andrews
Jn° Trymmer [34]	Charles Trimmell [41]	Tho. Jenner
W. Worcester [35]	George Wrighte	Jn° Meller
N. Cestriens [36]	W^m Hodges [42]	Henry Lovibond [47]
Grey Neville	Philip Stubs [43]	Thomas Freke
Ant. Boyer [37]	Ralph Gerrard	C. G. Lamothe [48]
J^b Coutris	Francis Wyndham [44]	Jo^n Tayleure
Tho. Littell [37] *bis*	Abel Ram [45]	Tho. Sodor & Man [49]
Jo. Reynalds	W^m Wickes	Rich. Mayo [50]
W. Husler [38]	Tho. Morer [46]	Ralph Palmer
Ja. Vernon [39]	Henry Hoare	Alex. Torriano [51]

[33] The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1753 announces the death of Rowland Cotton, of Bellaport, Salop, Esq.

[34] Dr. J. Trymmer, Treasurer, S.P.G.

[35] William Lloyd, Bishop of Worcester, born 1627, died 1717. He preached at the funeral of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey a sermon which was afterwards published. Author of a "Historical Account of Church Government."

[36] Nicholas Stratford, Bishop of Chester in 1689, born 1633, died 1707. Author of "A Dissuasive from Revenge," and several Tracts against Romanism.

[37] Anthony Bowyer, son of "Sir" Edmond Bowyer, born 1633, died 1709, buried at Camberwell. "A Funeral Satyr in Memory of the late Anthony Bowyer, of Camberwell, by a Friend of Dr. Sacheverell." 4to. 1709.

[37] *bis* Chaplain to the Lord Keeper. [38] Sir Wm. Hustler, M.P., 1703.

[39] Secretary of State to William of Orange. Author of "Travels through Denmark," 1702 [Watt].

[40] Sir Richard Blackmore, M.D., Physician to King William and Queen Anne, died 1729. Author of "Creation: a Philosophical Poem." London: 1715, &c.

[41] Charles Trimmell, D.D., Archdeacon of Norfolk, 1698; Rector of St. James's, Westminster, 1706; Bp. of Norwich, 1708; translated to Winchester, 1721; died 1723. Speech in House of Lords at the impeachment of Dr. Sacheverell, London, 1710.

[42] "Son to the Right Hon. the Lord Keeper." S.P.G. minute, Nov., 1701.

[43] Philip Stubbs, B.D., Rector of St. James's, Garlick Hill, London, and Archdeacon of St. Albans. Author of several Sermons published from 1701 to 1736.

[44] Francis Windham, of Cloverwall, near Covert, Gloucestershire,

[45] Abel Ram, of Ramsfort, co. Wexford, born 1668; married, 1701–2, daughter of Thos. Hemfreys, merchant, of London; died 1740.

[46] Thomas Morer, B.D., Rector of St. Ann's, Aldersgate. Author of "Fifteen Sermons preached on several occasions." London: 1717.

[47] H. Lovibond, probably a London merchant and East India director. Ancestor of the Lovibonds of Hatfield Peverel.

[48] Claude Groteste De la Mothe, a French Protestant divine, came to England at Revocation of Edict of Nantes. Became minister of French Church in the Savoy. Author of several Sermons.

[49] The celebrated Bishop Wilson, born at Burton, in Cheshire, 1663; educated at Trinity College, Dublin; Bp. of Sodor and Man, 1698; died 1755.

[50] Rector of St. Michael's, Crooked Lane. Author of several works between 1673 and 1724, given in "Watts."

[51] See note 31. He seems, from a letter to the S.P. G., dated Farnham Castle, March 29, 1703, to have been Secretary to the Bp. of Winchester.

J. K. Ernle	Tho. Lewis [53]	John Trollope
Lyonel Herne	W^m^ Whitfeld [54]	Rich. Reddall
J. Richardson [52]	Jos. Taylor	Sy. Eliensis [58]
Sam. Woodcock	Fran. Fox [55]	Geo. Watson
Rich. Bull	Ri. Bowchier [56]	Tho. Wentworth
Jo. Postlethwayt	Edm^d^ Gibson [57]	John King [59]

We whose names are underwritten do look upon the fixing Parochial Libraries throughout the Plantations (especially on the Continent of North America, where the provision for the Clergy we understand is but mean) as a Design which will very much tend to propagate Christian Knowledge in the Indies, being it will in all likelihood be a means always to invite the more studious and vertuous persons out of the Vniversities, & elsewhere, to undertake the Ministry in those parts ; and will be also a necessary means of rendring them usefull in all the parts of their function, by doctrine, by reproofs, by correction, by instruction in righteousness, when they are there. And therefore as we ourselves do Subscribe and contribute chearfully towards the further advance of these Pochial Libraries, so we shall make it our endeavour to obtain Benefactions from our friends and acquaintance respectively towards the same Christian purposes.

I, Francis Lord Guilford, do subscribe for myself and friends the sum of one hundred pounds.

I, S^r^ Edmund Turner, do subscribe for myself fifteen pounds.

I, Gideon Harvey, do subscribe five pounds for myself.

I, Thomas Bromefeild, do subscribe five pounds.

I, W. Melmoth, do subscribe for myself three guineas.

I, John Comyns, do subscribe five pounds.

I, Robert Nelson, do subscribe for myself and friends twenty pounds.

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[52] John Richardson, B.D., author of "An Answer to Toland on the Canon N. Testament." London : 1700.

[53] Thomas Lewis, M.A., author of "An Historical Essay upon the Consecration of Churches." London : 1719 ; and "Origines Hebrææ." London : 1724. Reprinted by Clarendon Press, 1834.

[54] Wm. Whitfield, D.D., Vicar of St. Giles, Cripplegate. Author of several works between 1698 and 1714, given in "Watt."

[55] Francis Fox, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Reading, 1726 ; died 1738. Author of several Sermons, &c., published from 1705 to 1722.

[56] Richard Bowchier, B.D., Chaplain to Bishop of Chichester.

[57] Edmund Gibson, Rector of Lambeth ; Bp. of Lincoln in 1716, and translated to London 1723 ; born 1669 ; died 1748 ; wrote many learned works.

[58] Simon Patrick, Bp. of Chichester 1689, of Ely 1691, born 1626, died 1707. The author of the celebrated Commentary, &c.

[59] John King, D.D., Rector of Chelsea. Born in Cornwall, 1652 ; died 1732. See Boase and Courtney's "Bibliotheca Cornubiensis."

I, John Chamberlayne, subscribe for myself and friends the sum of ten pounds.

For myself and friends five pounds. J. Hooke.

The Lord Bp. of Worcester ten pounds.

I, John Mapletoft, do subscribe five pounds[60].

I, John Evans, do subscribe five pounds.

I, Sam[l] Brewster, ten pounds.

I, S[r] John Philipps, do subscribe five guineas.

I, W[m] Farrer, do subscribe for myself two guineas.

I, W. Mecken, do subscribe for a friend four pounds.

I, John Hodges, do subscribe for myself and friends twelve pounds.

I, Henry Shute, do subscribe for myself thirty-six pounds and five shillings.

I, John Davies, do subscribe for myself ten pounds.

I, Jos. Neat [or Neale], do subscribe for myself fifty-three pounds.

I, Fred. Slare, do subscribe five pounds.

I, John, B[p] of Chichester, subscribe for myself five pounds.

I, W. Hayley, do subscribe for myself five pounds.

I, Geo. Wheler, having lately subscribed and paid to the Reverend Dr. Bray upward of three pounds, do now further subscribe two pounds.

I, Samuel Brewster, do subscribe for Dr. Brewster, of Hereford, by his order, two pounds.

I, Richard Willis, do subscribe for myself five pounds.

I, S[r] H. Mackworth, do subscribe five guineas.

I, Maynard Colchester,[61] do subscribe the sum of eight pounds.

I, White Kennett, subscribe the sum of one guinea.

I, Thomas Clarke, subscribe for myself ten guineas.

I, Dutton Seaman, subscribe for myself two guineas.

I, Whitlock Bulstrode, subscribe for myself three guineas.

I, Richard Bath & Wells, do subscribe for myself five pounds.

I, Thomas Littell, do subscribe for myself three guineas.

I, John Reynalds, do subscribe for myself five guineas.

I, W. Hustler, do subscribe for myself five guineas.

I, Tho. Manningham, do subscribe five pounds.

I, Charles Torriano, subscribe five pounds.

I, W[m] Lloyd, do subscribe two guineas.

I, Row. Cotton, do subscribe fifteen pounds.

I, John Trymmer, do subscribe five pounds.

I, Dan. Nicoll, do subscribe four guineas.

I, James Vernon, do subscribe five pounds.

I N., Bishop of Chester, subscribe five pounds.

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[60] See biographical particulars, p. 28.

[61] Maynard Colchester, Verderer of Forest of Dean, died 1715. He was eldest son of Sir Duncombe Colchester. A monument to his memory is in Westbury Church.

I, Grey Neville, four pounds.
I, Richard Blackmore, subscribe for myself five guineas.
I, Charles Trimnell, do subscribe four guineas.
I do subscribe five pounds. Ant. Boyer.
I do subscribe three guineas. J[b] Coutris.

7 December 1699.

We, whose names are underwritten, do subscribe to pay annually by quarterly payments the several sums to our several names annexed for promoting Christian Knowledge as by erecting Catechetical Schools, by raising Lending Catechetical Libraries in the several Market Towns in the Kingdome, by distributing good Books or otherwise as the Society shall direct, the first payment to be made at the ensuing Quarter Day.

*I, Francis Lord Guilford, do subscribe twenty pounds.
*I, John Bishop of Chichester, subscribe ten pounds.
*I, S[r] John Philipps, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, S[r] H. Mackworth, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, E. Turnor, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, R. Nelson, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, Rich[d] King, do subscribe six pounds.
I, John Evans, do subscribe five pounds.
I, John Davies, subscribe four pounds till I get a School erected in the Country, where I shall contribute this sume.
I, John Hooke, do subscribe five pounds.
I, Sam[l] Brewster, do subscribe two pounds.
*I, Thomas Bray, do subscribe five pounds in the Short Discourses on the Baptismal Cov[t] to be deliver'd to such Youths in the Schools as the Society shall think fit.
I, Henry Shute, do subscribe two pounds.
I, W. Melmoth, do subscribe two pounds.
I, John Hodges, do subscribe two pounds.
I, Gideon Harvey, do subscribe two pounds.
I, R. Nelson, do subscribe for D[r] John Mapletoft, by his order, five pounds.
I, W. Hayley, do subscribe five pounds.
*I, John Chamberlayne, do subscribe two pounds.
*I, George Wheler, do subscribe to the pious Design for the ensuing year only, y[e] first payment to commence at our Lady-day next, the sume of four pounds.

*I, Fred. Slare, do subscribe four pounds.
I, Thomas Bromefeild, do subscribe three pounds.
*I, Rich. Wills,[62] do subscribe five pounds.
I, Maynard Colchester, pay down ten pounds for the two next years ensuing.
*I, White Kennett, do subscribe two pounds.
*I, Thomas Clarke, do subscribe six pounds.
I, John Comyns, do subscribe four pounds.
I, Dutton Seaman, do subscribe two pounds.
I, W. Meckin, do subscribe five pounds.
I, Whitelock Bulstrode, do subscribe five pounds.
*I, Richard, Bath & Wells, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, Thomas Littell, do subscribe for myself two pounds.
I, John Reynalds, do subscribe for myself five pounds.
I, W. Hustler, do subscribe for myself five pounds.
I, Thomas Manningham, do subscribe five pounds.
I, Charles Torriano, subscribe two pounds.
*I, W^m Lloyd, do subscribe four pounds.
I, Row. Cotton, do subscribe ten pounds.
*I, W. Worcester, do subscribe twenty pounds.
I, John Trymmer, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, Dan. Nicoll, do subscribe four pounds.
*I, James Vernon, do subscribe five pounds.
*I, N., Bishop of Chester, subscribe ten pounds.
*I, Grey Neville, do subscribe four pounds.
*I, Richard Blackmore, do subscribe ten pounds.
I, Charles Trymnell, do subscribe four pounds.
I do subscribe five pounds. Ant. Bowyer.
Oct. 28, 1701.—I, Jacob Coutris, do subscribe fourty shillings.
Nov^r 4, 1701.—I, George Wrighte, do subscribe ten pounds.
Nov. 25.—I, W^m Hodges, do subscribe for myself two pounds.
Dec. 8.—*I, Philip Stubs, do subscribe for myself two pounds.
Jan. 26.—I, Ralph Gerrard, subscribe two pounds.
Ap. 9, 1702.—I, Edward Waddington, do subscribe for myself four guineas.
Ap. 9.—I, Ant. Collins, do subscribe for myself five pounds, and for my friend five pounds more.
Dec^r 10.—I, Francis Wyndham, do subscribe four guineas to be paid for the use of this Society for y^e year ensuing, dated Dec^r 10, 1702.
I, W^m. Lloyd, do subscribe the sume of five pounds for Mr. John Worth, the Correspondent Member for Penryn, in Cornwall, Jan. 28, 1702–3.
I, Abel Ram, do subscribe four guineas to be paid for the use of the Society for the year ensuing, 28 Jan^ry 1702-3.

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[62] Richd. Willis, see, p. 2

I, William Wickes, do subscribe five pounds for the use of the Society for the year ensuing, June 18, 1703.

I, Thomas Morer, do subscribe fourty shillings for the use of the Society by the year, to be paid quarterly as becomes due, Oct. 21, 73.

I, Henry Hoare, do subscribe five pounds, Oct. 28.

I, Thomas Andrews, do subscribe four pounds, Nov^{r} 4.

I, Vigerus Edwards,[63] do subscribe two pounds. Nov^{r} 18.

1703–4, Jan. 18.—I, Thomas Jenner, do subscribe two pounds.

Jan. 27.—I, Jn^{o} Meller, do subscribe four pounds.

Feb. 24.—I, Thomas Daeth, jun^{r} do subscribe five pounds

Mar. 16.—I, Henry Lovibond, do subscribe two pounds.

1704, May 25.—I, Ralph Palmer, do subscribe two pounds.

June 29.—I, Alex. Torriano, do subscribe three pounds.

Nov. 30.—I, John Ernle, do subscribe six pounds.

1704–5, Jan. 5.—I, Lionel Herne, do subscribe four guineas.

Jan. 11.—I, J. Richardson, do subscribe forty shillings.

Feb. 22.—I, Sam. Woodcock, do subscribe three pounds.

March 27.—I, Jos. Taylor, do subscribe two pounds.

19 April.—I, Francis Fox, do subscribe two pounds.

2 Aug.—I, Rich. Bowchier, doe subscribe three pounds.

30 Aug.—I, Edm. Gibson, do subscribe three pounds.

25 Oct.—I, John Trollope, do subscribe five pounds.

22 Nov.—I, Rich. Reddall, do subscribe three pounds.

3 Jan., 1705-6.—I, Tho. Freke, do subscribe ten pounds.

3 Jan., 1705-6.—I, Rich^{d} Bull, do subscribe three pounds.

*I, Symon, B^{p} of Ely, do subscribe ten pounds, to begin at Lady-day next, March 7, 1705.

11 Ap^{rl}, 1706.—*I, Claude G. de la Mothe, do subscribe four pounds, to begin at Midsummer, 1706.

6 June.—*I, Jo. Postlethwayt, do subscribe five pounds, to begin from Lady-day last.

I, George Watson, subscribe five pounds. Oct. 17.

I, Jo^{n} Tayleur, do subscribe forty shillings per annum. Oct. 24th, 1706.

Thomas Lewis ten pounds. 13th Febry., 1786–7.

Tho. Wentworth ten pounds. 14th Febry., 1706.

I, John Orlebar, do subscribe fourty shillings. Ap^{rl} 24, 1707.

*Tho. Sodor & Man, two pounds ten shillings to be paid yearly.

30 Oct^{r}, 1707.—I, Will. Whitfeld, by reason that I maintain a Charity School at my own proper charge, do subscribe at present only twenty shillings.

Jan. 8, 1707-8.—I, John King, do subscribe three pounds.

Jan. 8.—I, Richard Mayo, do subscribe two pounds.

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[63] The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1760, p. 9, announces the death of Vigerus Edwards, Esq., aged 88.

Whereas the Resident Members at their Admission into this Society, did Subscribe a Voluntary Sum of Money toward the fixing Parochial Libraries throughout the English Plantations in America: And Whereas that Branch of their Designs being since devolved upon the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the said Subscription is therefore now vacated; and a new one for promoting their other good Designs in general (besides the Quarterly Subscription) being resolved upon, to be paid by every Resident Member, for the future, upon his Admission: Wee, whose names are underwritten in Concurrence with the said Resolution, do Subscribe as follows.

I do subscribe four guineas this paid at my admission. Francis Wyndham.

I do subscribe three guineas this paid at my admission. Abel Ram.

I, W^m^ Wickes, do subscribe three pounds, and paid it at my admission.

I, Thomas Morer, do subscribe forty shillings, and paid it at my admission.

I, Henry Hoare, do subscribe four guineas, and paid it at my admission.

I, Thomas Andrews, do subscribe two guineas, and paid it at my admission.

I, Vigerus Edwards, have subscribed two guineas, and paid it at my admission.

I, Thomas Jenner, do subscribe a guinea.

I, John Meller, do subscribe two guineas, which I paid down at my admission.

I, Thomas D'Aeth, jun^r^, do subscribe two guineas, which I paid at my admission.

I, Henry Lovibond, do subscribe a guinea, which I paid at my admission.

I, Ralph Palmer, do subscribe a guinea, which I paid at my admission.

I, Alex. Torriano, do subscribe one pound ten shillings, which I paid at my admission.

I, Joh. Ernle, do subscribe three guineas, which I paid at my admission.

I, Lionell Herne, do subscribe two guineas, which I paid at my admission.

I, J. Richardson, do subscribe one guinea, which I paid at my admission.

I, Sam. Woodcock, do subscribe two guineas at my admission.

I, Joseph Taylor, do subscribe one guinea at my admission.

I, Francis Fox, do subscribe two guineas at my admission.

I, Richard Bowchier, do subscribe one guinea at my admission.

I, Edm^{d} Gibson, do subscribe one guinea at my admission.

I, John Trollope, do subscribe two guineas at my admission w^{ch} I paid down at my admission.

I, Ric. Reddall, do subscribe one guinea at my admission.

I, Tho. Freke, do subscribe three guineas at my admission.

I, Richard Bull, do subscribe two guineas at my admission.

I, Symon, B^{p} of Ely, do subscribe five pounds at my admission.

I, Cl. g de La Mothe, do subscribe one guinea at my admission.

I, Jo. Postlethwayt, do subscribe and pay at my admission two guineas.

I, George Watson, subscribe and pay at my admission four guineas.

I, Jo^{n} Tayleure, do subscribe and pay at my admission two guineas.

I, Thomas Lewis, do subscribe and pay at my admission five guineas.

I, Tho. Wentworth, do subscribe on my admission five guineas, and paid it to Mr. Wanley Feb. 14, 1706.

I, John Orlebar, do subscribe and pay at my admission two guineas.

At my admission, I subscribe and pay at my admission, £1. 1s. 6d. Tho., Sodor & Man. May 7, 1707.

At my admission, I subscribe one guinea. October 30, 1707. Will. Whitfeld.

I, Jn^{o} King, do subscribe at my admission one broad piece—£1. 5s. 6d.

I, Richard Mayo, do subscribe at my admission one guinea.

Whereas, the growth of Vice and Immorality is greatly owing to the gross ignorance of the principles of the Christian Religion, We, whose names are underwritten, do agree to meet together once a week, or as often as we can conveniently, to consult how we may (with God's blessing) be able to propagate Christian Knowledge by encouraging Charity Schools, distributing good books, and by such other lawfull methods as shall be thought fit. And in order thereto do subscribe to pay annually by quarterly payments the respective sums of money sett down against our names in the first column underneath. The first payment to be made the ensuing Quarter-day, and do now pay at our admission the sums against our names mention'd in the second column, viz^{t}.

Time.	Subscribers.	Payments. Annually. £.	s.	d.	Admission. £.	s.	d.
1698-9, March 8	I, Francis L[d] Guildford do subscribe	20	0	0	100	0	0
„	I, S[r] Humph. Mackworth, do subscribe	10	0	0	5	7	6
„	I, Jn[o] Hook, do subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„	I, S. Edmund Turner, do subscribe	10	0	0	15	0	0
„	I, Maynard Colchester, pay down for the next year	10	0	0	8	0	0
„	I, Thomas Bray, subscribe in Books, to be given to Children as the Society think fit	5	0	0			
1699, Ap. 19	I, Jn[o] Chamberlayne, subscribe	2	0	0	10	0	0
„ April 5	I, S[r] John Philips, do subscribe	10	0	0	5	7	6
„ Ab[t] 19	I, Tho. Bromefield, subscribe	3	0	0	5	0	0
„ May 18	I, Samuel Brewster, subscribe	2	0	0	10	0	0
„	I, Jn[o] Comyns, subscribe	4	0	0	5	0	0
„ „ 25	I, Henry Shute, subscribe	2	0	0	36	5	0
„ June 1	I, W[m] Melmoth, subscribe	2	0	0	3	4	6
„	I, Fred Slare, subscribe	4	0	0	5	0	0
„ „ 22	I, Rob[t] Nelson, subscribe	10	0	0	20	0	0
„ Ab[t] July 20	I, R. Nelson, subscribe for Dr. Mapletoft, by his order	5	0	0	5	0	0
„ Aug. 17	I, Jn[o] Evans (Bangor) subscribe	5	0	0	5	7	6
„ Nov. 9	I, Jn[o] W[m] Mecken subscribe	5	0	0	4	0	0
„ „ 23	I, Jn[o] Hodges, subscribe	2	0	0	12	0	0
„ Dec. 14	I, W[m] Hayley, subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„	I, Rich[d] Willis, subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„	I, Rich[d], Bath & Wells, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0	0
„	I, Rich[d] King, subscribe	6	0	0	5	0	0

Time.	Subscribers.	Payments. Annually. £.	s.	d.	Admission. £.	s.	d.
1699–700, Jan^{y}. 11	I, Jn^{o}, Bp. of Chichester, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0	0
„ March 7	I, Nicholas, Bishop of Chester, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0	0
„ „ 14	I, White Kennet, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
1700, May 9	I, Whitlock Bulstrode, subscribe	5	0	0	3	4	6
„ April 25	I, Dutton Seaman, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3	0
„ July 11	I, Thomas Littel, subscribe	2	0	0	3	4	6
„ „ 25	I, Jn^{o} Reynolds, subscribe	5	0	0	5	7	6
„ Oct. 24	I, Tho. Manningham, subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„ „ 31	I, William Hustler, subscribe	5	0	0	5	7	6
„ Nov. 21	I, Charles Torriano, subscribe	2	0	0	5	0	0
„ Dec. 16	I, William Lloyd, subscribe	4	0	0	2	3	0
„ Jan^{y} 20	I, Rowland Cotton, subscribe	10	0	0	15	0	0
„ „ 27	I, W^{m} Worcester, subscribe	20	0	0	10	0	0
„ Feb. 10	I, Jn^{o} Trymmer, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0	0
	I, Richard Blackmore, subscribe	10	0	0	5	7	6
„ Feb. 24	I, James Vernon, subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„ March 10	I, Daniel Nicholl, subscribe	4	0	0	4	6	0
1701, April 28	I, Grey Neville, subscribe	4	0	0	4	0	0
„ June 2	I, Ant. Bowyer, subscribe	5	0	0	5	0	0
„ Oct. 28	I, Jacob Coutris, subscribe	2	0	0	3	4	6
„ Dec. 8	I, Philip Stubs, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3	0
1701–2, Jan. 26	I, Ralph Gerrard, subscribe	2	0	0	2	10	0
„ Dec. 10	I, Francis Wyndham, subscribe	4	6	0	4	6	0
1702–3, Jan. 28	I, Abel Ram, subscribe	4	6	0	3	4	6
1703, June 18	I, William Wickes, subscribe	5	0	0	3	0	0
„ Oct. 21	I, Thomas Morer, subscribe	2	0	0	2	0	0

1703, Oct. 28. ...	I, Henry Hoare, subscribe	5	0	0	4	6
„ Nov. 4	I, Thomas Andrews, subscribe	4	0	0	2	3 0
„ „ 18 ...	I, Vigerus Edwards, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3 0
1703–4, Jan. 18 ...	I, Thos Jenner, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1 6
„ „ 27...	I, John Meller, subscribe	4	0	0	2	3 0
„ Feb. 24 .	I, Thos D'Aeth, subscribe	5	0	0	2	3 0
„ March 16	I, Henry Lovibond, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1 6
1704 May 25.....	I, Ralph Palmer, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1 6
„ June 29 ...	I, Alex. Torriano, subscribe	3	0	0	1	10 0
„ Nov. 30 ...	I, Jn° Kyrle Ernle, subscribe	6	0	0	3	4 6
1704–5, Jan. 4 ...	I, Lionel Herne, subscribe	4	6	0	2	3 0
„ „ 11 ...	I, Jn° Richardson, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1 6
„ Feb. 22 ...	I, Sam. Woodcock, subscribe	3	0	0	2	3 0
1705, March 22 ...	I, Jos. Taylor, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1 6
„ Ap[l] 19	I, Francis Fox, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3 0
„ Aug. 2	I, Rich[d] Bowchier, subscribe	3	0	0	1	1 6
* „ „ 30	I, Edm[d] Gibson, subscribe	3	0	0	1	1 6
„ Oct. 25	I, John Trollope, subscribe	5	0	0	2	3 0
„ Nov. 22.....	I, Rich[d] Reddal, subscribe	3	0	0	1	1 6
1705–6, Jan. 3 ...	I, Thomas Freke, subscribe	10	0	0	3	4 6
„ „ ...	I, Richard Bull, subscribe	3	0	0	2	3 0
„ March 19	I, Simon, Bp. of Ely, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0 0
1706, April 11 ...	I, Claude G. de la Mothe, subscribe	4	0	0	1	1 6
„ June 6	I, Jn° Posselthwaite, subscribe	5	0	0	2	3 0
„ Oct. 17.....	I, Geo. Watson, subscribe	5	0	0	4	6 0
„ 24 ...	I, Jn° Tayleure, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3 0
1706–7, Feb. 13...	I, Thomas Lewis, subscribe	10	0	0	5	7 6
„ „ 14...	I, Thomas Wentworth, subscribe	10	0	0	5	7 6
1707, April 24 ...	I, John Orlebar, subscribe	2	0	0	2	3 0
„ May 8	I, Thomas, Sodor & Man, subscribe	2	10	0	1	1 6
„ Oct. 30.....	I, W[m] Whitfield, by reason that I maintain a Charity School, subscribe ...	1	0	0	1	1 6

Time.	Subscribers.	Payments. Annually. £.	s.	d.	Admission. £.	s.	d.
1707–8, Jan. 8 ...	I, John King, subscribe	3	0	0	1	5	6
„	I, Ricd Mayo, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
1708, July 22	I, Rich Roderick, subscribe.....	2	0	0	1	1	6
* „ Oct. 14.....	I, Knightley Chetwood,[1] subscribe	3	0	0	2	3	0
„ „ 28.....	I, Peter Lavigne, subscribe	4	0	0	2	3	0
„	I, Robt Hales, subscribe	5	0	0	1	1	6
1708–9,* Jan. 12	I, Corn. Yeate, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
* „ Feb. 3	I, Ant. Wm Boehm,[2] subscribe	3	0	0	1	1	6
	Thus far the Subscriptions in the old Book.						
„ Mar. 17 ...	I, Wm Forster, subscribe	3	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 31 ...	I, Tho. Pyrke, subscribe	3	0	0	2	3	0
„ *Apll 28 ...	I, Wm Stanley, subscribe	4	0	0	2	3	0
„ June 16 ...	I, Henry Shute, by the order of Dr. Thomas Lynford,[3] do subscribe for him, to commence from Midsummer next.....	3	0	0			
1709, Xber 8	I, Will. Pigott, do subscribe	4	0	0	1	1	6
* „ „ 15.....	I, Jon Forde, do subscribe.....	4	0	0	1	1	6
* „ „ 24.....	I, Thomas[4] Waterford & Lismore.....	4	0	0	1	1	6
Jan. 18	I, Dan. Dolins, subscribe[5]	5	0	0	4	3	0

[1] Installed Dean of Gloucester Ap. 6, 1707; died about Ap. 4, 1720.

[2] A. W. Boehm, Chaplain to Prince George of Denmark. Translator of Franck's "Pietas Hallensis"; author of Sermon on Doctrine of Original Sin, London, 1711; and one on Duty of Reformation, 1718.

[3] Thos. Lynford, D.D., Rector of St. Edward-the-King and St. Nicholas Acons [in old records, according to Stow, St. Nicholas Hacon], London. Author of several Sermons published between 1709 and 1715.

[4] Thomas Milles, Bp. of Waterford and Lismore; nominated Regius Prof. of Greek at Oxford, Feb. 8, 1706–7.

[5] The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1743, p. 389, announces death, on July 12, of Daniel Dollins, of Hackney, Esq.

1709–10, Jan. 26...	I, Edward Tenison,[6] do subscribe	4	0	0	1	1	6
„ Feb. 16 ...	I, Henry Raynes, do subscribe	6	0	0	2	3	0
„ Nov. 9 ...	I, Zechariah Gee, subscribe	4	0	0	4	3	0
1710, Jan. 4	I, Will[m] Colnett, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
*1710–11, Mar. 15	Philip,[7] B[p] of S[t] David's.....	10	0	0	5	0	0
„ June 7..	I, Edward Jennings, subscribe.....	5	0	0	4	6	0
„ July 12	I, John Higden, subscribe.....	5	0	0	5	7	6
„ Aug. 30	I, Rich[d] Hoare, subscribe	5	0	0	5	7	6
* „ Oct. 10	I, John, L[d] B[p] of Bristol, subscribe[8]	5	0	0	4	6	0
„ Nov. 8	I, John Pelling, subscribe	4	6	0	1	1	6
„ „ 15	I, Will[m] Higden, subscribe	5	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 22	I, Roger Harris, subscribe	10	0	0	16	2	6
„ Jan. 15	I, Nathan Hickman, subscribe.....	4	0	0	4	3	0
* „ Jan. 15	I, Francis Gastrill, subscribe[9].....	4	0	0	1	1	6
	I, John Orlebar, having subscribed £2 per annum on 24 April, 1707, do subscribe.....	4	0	0			
„ Feb. 21	I, Will[m] Stratford, subscribe.....	5	0	0	4	3	0
* „ Mar. 20	I, L. Frederic Bonet, subscribe	4	6	0	1	1	6
„ „ 27	I, Will[m] Wykes, subscribe	4	6	0	1	1	6
1712, May 8	I, Jem. Raymond, subscribe.....	6	0	0	2	3	0
„ June 5	I, Rob[t] Marsham, subscribe	10	0	0	5	0	0
	I, E. Probyn, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ July 10	I, Tho[s] Greene, subscribe[10]	5	0	0	2	3	0

[6] Edwd. Tenison, afterwards Archdeacon of Carmarthen and Bp. of Ossory 1731; died 1735.

[7] Philip Bisse, consecrated 1710. Translated to Hereford 1713; died 1721. Buried in Hereford Cathedral.

[8] John Hall, consecrated Aug. 30, 1691, Bp. of Bristol; died Feb. 4, 1709–10, at Pembroke College, Oxford.

[9] F. Gastrill, D.D., preacher at Lincoln's Inn 1694; Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, 1702; Bp. of Chester, 1714; died 1725. Preached the Boyle Lectures for 1697. Author of "Principles of Deism," London, 1709, &c.

[10] Thos. Greene, born at Norwich 1658; Vicar of Minster, Isle of Thanet, 1695; Master of Corpus Christi Coll., Camb., 1698; Archdeacon of Canterbury, 1708; Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 1716; Bp. of Norwich, 1721; Bp. of Ely, 1723; died 1738.

Time.	Subscribers.	Payments. Annually. £.	s.	d.	Admission. £.	s.	d.
1712, Oct. 2	I, Richard Mills, subscribe	4	0	0	1	1	6
„ Nov. 13.....	I, Thomas Hayley, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 27.....	I, Will[m] Lupton,[11] subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ Jan. 1	I, William Perris, subscribe	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 8	I, Robert Watts,[12] by order of the Reverend Mr. Weller, of Maidstone, in Kent, subscribe for him annually, to commence from Xmas last	2	3	0			
„ „ 13	I, Chris. Appleby, subscribe annually, to commence from Christmas last ...	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ March 19...	I, Richard Manningham,[13] subscribe annually to commence from Lady Day	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ April 16.....	I, Peter Foulkes,[14] subscribe annually, to commence from Lady Day last ...	4	6	0	2	3	0
1713, Oct. 19.....	I, Roger Davis, subscribe annually, to commence from this day.....	1	0	0	0	5	0
„ „	I, John Heylyn,[15] subscribe annually, to commence from Michs. Day last...	4	0	0	1	1	6
„ Nov. 11.....	I, Will[m] Dixon,[16] subscribe annually, to commence from Michs. last	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ Feb. 11	I, Thomas Welham, do subscribe annually, to commence from Lady Day next	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 25.....	I, W[m] Vane, do subscribe annually to commence from Xmas last	6	0	0	2	3	0
„ March 4 ...	The Rev. Mr. D'Effray[17] subscribes annually, to commence at Lady Day next	2	0	0			

[11] Wm. Lupton, M.A., lecturer at St. Dunstan's-in-the-West and preacher at Lincoln's Inn. Author of "The Eternity of Punishment Proved and Vindicated." Oxford, 1708. This was published against Archbishop Tillotson.

[12] Robert Watts, LL.B., Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford. Author of "The Duty and Manner of Propagating the Gospel," London, 1711.

[13] Son of Thos. Manningham, Bp. of Chester (see p. 2). Built Park Chapel, Cheltenham, in 1718.

[14] The *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1778, p. 238, announces the death of "Rev. Mr. Peter Foulkass, Prebend. of the Cathedral at Exeter, and Rector of Semly, Wilts."

[15] John Heylyn, Rector of St. Mary-le-Strand; Prebendary of Westminster. Author of "Theological Lectures at Westminster Abbey, with an Interpretation of the New Testament." London, 1749–61.

[16] The *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1737, p. 638, announces the death of Wm. Dixon, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn.

[17] Minister of New Romney, in Kent.

1714, Apr. 29.....	I, George Willoughby Broke,[18] do subscribe annually from Lady-day last...	5	0	0	5	7	6
„ Xber 23.....	I, Nathaniel Castleton, do subscribe annually from Xmas next	5	0	0			
„ Mar. 3	I, Nathaniel Marshal, do subscribe, to commence from Lady-day next	2	3	0	1	1	6
„ „ 10	I, Edward Trott, do subscribe	4	6	0	4	6	0
„	I, Robert Holford, do subscribe, from Lady-day next	3	0	0	1	1	6
„ Mar. 17.....	I, Edward Waddington,[19] do subscribe from Lady-day next	4	6	0	1	1	6
1715, May 19.....	I, Thomas Parnel, do subscribe from Midsummer next.....	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 26.....	I, Geo. Whelot, do subscribe, from Lady-day last	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ July 7	I, Gilbert Burnet,[20] do subscribe, from Midsummer last.....	2	0	0	1	1	6
„ „ 20	I, W^m^ Lincoln,[21] do subscribe from Michas. next.....	5	0	0	5	7	6

[18] The Hon. and Rev. George Verney, Lord Willoughby de Broke, Dean of Windsor, 1713.

[19] Edward Waddington, Bp. of Chichester, October 11, 1724; died 1731.

[20] Probably Gilbert Burnet, son of Bp. of Salisbury. He seems to have died before 1735.

[21] Wm. Wake, D.D., Bp. of Lincoln, 1705; Archbp. of Canterbury, 1716. See page 33.

8 March, 1698-9.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Humphrey Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. Resolv'd that Col. Colchester and Dr. Bray go and discourse George Keith in order to be satisfyed what progress he has hitherto made towards the instruction and conversion of Quakers, and to know what he designs to attempt further, under the conduct of God's Providence and assistance, in order to redeem that misguided people to the knowledge and belief of Christ, and that they report the same to the Society to-morrow morning.

2. Resolv'd that we consider to-morrow morning how to further and promote that good Design of erecting Catecheticall Schools in each parish in and about London, and that Col. Colchester and Dr. Bray give their thoughts how it may be done.

3. Resolv'd that the Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford be desired to speak to the Archbishop[1] that care may be taken that a Clause be provided in the Bill for imploying the poor, to have the Children taught to read and be instructed in the Church Catechism.

4. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray be desired, as soon as conveniently he can, to lay before this Society his Scheme for Promoting Religion in the Plantations, and his Accompts of Benefactions and Disbursements towards the same.

10 March, 1698-9.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. Dr. Bray and Col. Colchester reported that they had discoursed George Keith, and were pleased with the account of his management of his Design hitherto, and their report being considered,

2. Resolv'd that this Society will endeavour to procure for Mr. Keith some certificate or recommendation which may protect him in his travails, and procure him some encouragement from the Justices of the Peace.

3. Resolv'd that this Society will endeavour to disperse Mr. Keith's Narrative and Catechism up and down the Kingdome among the Quakers for their better conviction and instruction.

4. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray do lay before this Society an estimate of the printing Mr. Keith's Narrative and Catechism.

5. Resolv'd that this Society will subscribe a Stock for Insurance of the charge of setting up Schools for promoting Christian Knowledge, and that Mr. Justice Hook do draw up an Instrument of Insurance and a Form of Subscription for the Contributors in their respective Parishes.

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[1] Archbishop Tenison.

12 March, 1698-9.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. The Lord Guilford report's that he had spoken with the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, in pursuance of the desire of this Society, and that his Grace was pleased with the motion, and had promis'd to speake to the Chairmen of the Committee, to whom the consideration of methods for imploying the poor is committed, that care may be taken that provision be made to teach the poor to read in their workhouses, and also to instruct them in the Church Catechism.

2. Resolv'd that Col. Colchester be desired to find out three persons to begin an endeavour of setting up Schools in three Parishes.

16 March, 1698-9.

Present: The Right Hon[ble] the Lord Guilford, S[r] Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. Agreed Mr. Justice Hook shall be our Treasurer.

2. Agreed we deposite five shillings apiece towards paying for our books and other expences.

3. Resolv'd that the next meeting we give directions what shall be entered in our books.

4. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray bring at our next meeting a copy of such orders for the Schools as he shall think will be proper.

5. The form of subscriptions to Schools and the instrument of insurance which relates thereto, and which is to be subscribed by every member of this Society, was read and approved of.[1]

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[1] THE FORM OF SUBSCRIPTION TO YE CHARITY SCHOOLS ERECTED OR PROMOTED BY THE HONBLE. SOCIETY, &C. :—

Whereas it is evident to common observation, That the growth of vice and debauchery is greatly owing to the gross ignorance of the principles of the Christian Religion, especially among the poorer sort. And also whereas Christian vertue can grow from no other root than Christian Principles, we whose names are underwritten, inhabitants of the Parish of in the County of , being touched with zeal for the honour of God, the salvation of the souls of our poor brethren, and the Promoting of Christian Knowledge among the poor of this Parish, do hereby promise to pay yearly during pleasure, by four equal quarterly payments, viz., at Michaelmas, Christmas, Lady-day, and Midsummer, such respective sums as we have hereunto subscribed for and towards the setting up a School within this Parish for teaching poor children (whose parents are not able to afford them any education) to read and write, and to repeat and understand the Church Catechism according to the Rules and Orders lately printed and published by the direction of the Honble. Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge.

As witness our hands this day of Anno Domini.

19 March, 1698-9.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. The Preamble postpon'd.
2. Mr. Justice Hook reported that three persons had been with him who are willing to undertake the care of taking Subscriptions to set up Schools, and seem well qualified for such an undertaking.
3. Ordered that the Forms of Subscription for the Society be enter'd in the Book of Standing Orders, and that the Form of Subscription to Schools and the Orders be delivered to the undertakers.
4. The Orders of the Schools were agreed to, and to be entered in the Journall.

Memorandum—those Orders were afterwards printed.

5. Resolv'd that this Society will consider of methods to induce the Parents of the Scholars to attend the Catechetical Lectures.

20 March, 1698-9.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray, Col. Colchester.

1. The Preamble again postpon'd.
2. Dr. Bray reports that Mr. Keith's larger Catechism [1] will cost twelve pounds a thousand, the paper computed at eight shillings per ream, the lesser Catechism at three pounds a thousand, and his Narratives fifteen pounds a thousand.
3. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray doe procure one of each of the said books in order to take a Resolution concerning them.
4. Resolv'd that this Society will furnish twelve pounds towards the Printing the said Books, according to the discretion of the said Mr. Keith.

The Form of Insurance of Charity Schools.

We whose names are underwritten having agreed to promote the setting up of Schools for Instructing Poor Children in the Principles of Christianity in the several Parishes where they are most wanted in and about the City of London, and having also to that purpose agreed to provide a sum of money to be imployed by way of insurance for y^e^ encouragement of such well-disposed persons as shall undertake to set up the same in such methods as we shall from time to time direct. Now we do hereby further agree that we will severally pay the respective sums which we have hereunto subscribed (to be disposed of according to the discretion of this Society) to the Treasurer for the time being, who shall or may receive the same (or such part thereof as the Society shall think necessary to be raised) on demand, and shall and may dispose of and lay out y^e^ same accordingly.

[1] "A Christian Catechisme for the Instruction of Youth and others against Quakerism." London: 1699. 8vo.

The Lord Guilford was pleased to contribute five pounds towards the Printing the said Books, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth four pounds, Col. Colchester and Mr. Justice Hook the rest.

5 April, 1699.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray.

1. Resolv'd that S^r^ John Phillips and Mr. Yates be desired to be Members of this Society, as also Mr. Martyn.
2. Mr. Chamberlayne and Mr. Bromfield propos'd to be elected Members of this Society.

15 April, 1699.

Present: The Lord Guilford, S^r^ Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Dr. Bray.

1. Ordered that Lord Guilford and Dr. Bray be desired to enquire concerning Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Chamberlayne.

19 April, 1699.

Present: The Lord Guilford, S^r^ Hum. Mackworth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne be admitted into the Society.
2. The Preamble read and approv'd of.
3. Order'd that every Member of the Society do subscribe the same. *Vid.* first leaf of this Journal (p. 1).

4 May, 1699.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Agreed that at the next meeting we take into consideration Dr. Bray's scheme.[1]
2. Justice Railton propos'd to be of this Society.

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[1] The following is a "Memorial given in by y^e^ Dr. Bray to y^e^ Honble. Society":—

A General View of what has appeared to me to be wanting for the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations, so far as hitherto and at this distance I can give an estimate.

To induce a learn'd, studious, and a sober clergy to go into the service of y^e^ Church in those parts, it seems necessary that Parochial Libraries should be fixt in every cure of souls, consisting of some of the best Books in Divinity, both Commentators on y^e^ Holy Scriptures and Treatises on the Doctrines and Duties of Christianity.

6 May, 1699.

Present: The Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Railton a second time propos'd to be of the Society.
2. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire about him.
3. S^r^ Edmund Turner propos'd the first time to be of the Society.
4. Agreed that the two Germans, that Professor Frank, of Hall, in Germany, lately sent over to sett up Catechetical Schools here, be desired to be here at the next meeting.

To give further means of Instruction and Edification to the people in the Plantations, it is requisite there should be considerable quantities sent of practical Books to be distributed gratis amongst y^m^.

To train up their youth in the knowledge of Christ, Catechetical Free Schools for y^e^ Education of the Children of the Poorest Planters appears highly expedient.

That the marryed Clergy, whose zeal to the service of Christ's Church would otherwise excite them to go over and water those dry and partch'd parts of the Earth, may not be disencouraged from the same; and from exposing themselves to the most dangerous services in times of mortality, and on other occasions, by the fear of leaving their wives and children destitute and unprovided, there seems to be more particularly wanting in those parts certain Charitable Plantations, stock'd with some Negroes, which Plantations, for commodities proper for the country, may be rais'd at an easy charge, and the product will be very considerable.

To stimulate and excite y^e^ Clergy that are there to distinguish themselves by their Learning and Industry, and especially by their zeal for y^e^ salvation of men's souls, and their care to abstain from all appearance of evil, and that they may give no offence to any; it seems desirable that out of y^e^ like Charitable Plantations, or otherwise, there could be something in the power of those who preside over them, as Suffragans or Commissarys, to bestow upon them, as Gratuities, by way of Pension or Præbendal Fees.

To reduce the Quakers, who are so numerous in those parts, to the Christian Faith, from which they are totally Apostatiz'd, and so may be lookd upon as a Heathen Nation, it were to be wish'd that a support could be provided for some Missionaries to be sent amongst them, in order to convert them, in the manner that George Keith does travail amongst them here in England to that blessed end, and not without good success.

And lastly, in order to convert the Indian Nations, it seems a likely method, could there be provision for the Education of some of their Youth in Schools for that purpose, who, after a thorough Instruction in the Christian Faith, might be sent back amongst their own natives, as a properst persons to convert them and to deale with them for their soul's good; When thou art converted strengthen thy brethren.

9 May, 1699.

Present: The Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Railton approv'd to be of this Society.
2. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne desire him to attend.
3. S[r] Edmund Turner propos'd a second time.
4. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire about him.
5. Mr. Brewster, of Lincoln's Inn, propos'd the first time.
6. Mr. Comyns, of Lincoln's Inn, propos'd the first time.
7. Mr. Woodward,[1] Minister of Poplar, propos'd the first time.
8. Mr. Shute, Lecturer of White Chappell, propos'd the first time.
9. Resolv'd that we meet every Thursday, at six of the clock in the evening.

11 May, 1699.

Present: The Lord Guilford, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook.

1. S[r] Edmund Turner approved of.

A General View of what has been hitherto done towards the accomplishing y[e] foregoing Designs.

As to the Parochial Libraries for the Clergy in the Plantations, there are thirty advanced to a pretty good perfection, and a foundation layd of seventy more, in all to the vallue of near Two Thousand Pounds.

As to the dispersing good Books amongst the people of y[e] Colonies, there are several thousand sent, which will be given gratis amongst them to y[e] value of Five Hundred Pounds.

As to Schools, provision for the Widdows and Orphans of the deceased Clergy who shall dye poor, and to excite vertuous emulation in the Ministers to excell in doing good, there is something done towards the raising a Charitable Plantation in Carolina for a fund to answer the said ends in that and the adjoyning Province of Bermudas; and it is hoped, in time, to bring the like about in other Colonies.

As to the Reduction of Quakers, there is a Subscription carrying on and considerably advanced to that purpose by some Excellent Persons.

And lastly, towards the providing for all the forementionⁿ'd Ends, as well in succeeding Generations as at present, there is not only some Considerable Donations made for a perpetual yearly Income to provide for these purposes; but there is an honble. and worthy society of excellent persons, who both contribute themselves, and make it their business to induce others to bestow their Charity that way, and who make it their care to dispose of what is given both by present Benefactions and Annual Subscriptions and Settlements in y[e] several ways beforementioned so as shall best answer the General Design.

[1] Josiah Woodward, D.D., author of "An Account of the Rise and Progress of the Religious Societies in the City of London, &c., and of the Endeavours for Reformation of Manners." London: 2nd edition, 1698.

2. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do desire him to attend.

3. Mr. Brewster propos'd a second time.

4. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire concerning him.

5. Mr. Comyns propos'd a second time.

6. Order'd that S[r] Humfrey Mackworth and Mr. Justice Hook doe enquire concerning him.

7. Mr. Woodward propos'd a second time.

8. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire concerning him.

9. Mr. Shute propos'd a second time.

10. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do enquire concerning him.

11. The two Germans attended, and Mr. Chamberlayne was desired to discourse them.

The business of the two Germans was to give an account of the School erected at Hall [Halle], in Saxony, by Professor Frank, and who was afterwards chosen a Corresponding Member for those parts.

12. Order'd that they do attend again.

13. Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Seymour, and Dr. Harvey propos'd to be members of this Society.

18 May, 1699.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Michell, two of the Agents for Schools, report that the School in Wapping has no provision save to pay the Master, and that the subscriptions amount not to pay for books.

2. Order'd that Mr. Keith take with him (in his progress into the country to convert the Quakers) eighty greater Catechisms, one hundred and thirty lesser, twenty-four Narratives, and fifty of Penn's Deisms.[1]

3. Ordered that the Treasurer pay Mr. Keith tenn pounds twelve shillings and sixpence for his books.

4. Order'd that he pay also tenn shillings to Mr. Bridges for the School at Wapping.

5. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Michell report that the Minister and a Society and others in the parish of St. George, Southwark, have subscribed about sixteen pounds per annum towards a School in that parish, and that the officers of that parish promise their assistance.

[1] This refers to a tractate entitled "The Deism of Wm. Penn and his brethren exposed." Lond. 1699. 8vo. George Keith was the author of a long list of pamphlets and volumes, directed chiefly against the Quakers, between the dates 1668 and 1709. He was himself a reformed Quaker.

6. Mr. Brewster approv'd of.

7. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Justice Hook do desire him to attend.

8. Mr. Comyns approv'd of.

9. Order'd that Col. Colchester and Mr. Justice Hook do desire him to attend.

10. Mr. Woodward approv'd of.

11. Order'd that Col. Colchester and Dr. Bray do desire him to attend.

(Mr. Woodward, now Dr. Woodward, by reason of his distance from the town and multiplicity of business, has desir'd to be admitted into y^e^ Society as a correspondent member, w^ch^ was granted.)

25 May, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Bromfield.

1. Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Seymour, Dr. Harvey propos'd a second time.

2. Ordered that Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Chamberlayne do enquire concerning each of them.

3. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Michell report that the Officers of St. Andrew's Parish will joyn with the Subscribers in setting up a Schoöl, and that the Lord Hallifax's Steward promis'd to procure an empty house for that purpose.

4. Mr. Shute approv'd of.

5. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do desire him to attend.

1 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromfield, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Bridges reports that Dr. Manningham reported the School in St. Andrews had subscribed forty shillings towards it.

2. Mr. Michell reports that Dr. Welton,[1] Rector of White Chappell, will subscribe for that parish.

3. Dr. Lucas[2] proposed the first time.

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[1] Richard Welton, D.D., Rector of St. Mary, Whitechapel, author of "The Substance of Christian Faith and Practice, represented in eighteen Practical Discourses." London: 1724. One of the sermons is entitled "Church Ornament without Idolatry Vindicated. Erection of an Altar-piece."

[2] Richard Lucas, D.D., Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, was born 1648, died 1715. Author of "Practical Christianity" (London: 1700),—a work strongly recommended by Sir Richard Steele in the *Guardian*,—and numerous sermons.

4. Dr. Harvey approv'd of.
5. Mr. Melmouth and Dr. Slare approv'd of.
6. Order'd that Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Chamberlayne doe desire them to attend.

8 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Order'd that Dr. Bray's account lye upon the Table to be perused by the Members of this Society.
2. Dr. Lucas propos'd a second time.
3. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Bromfield doe enquire concerning him.
4. Dr. Cox propos'd the first time.

8 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Sr. Edmund Turner, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Woodward reported that in the Hamlett of Poplar, there is a School begun, that twelve Scholars are taught at the Charge of the Society and four by him.
2. Sr. Edmund Turner reports that Mr. Charles Duncomb will give Books or money towards the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.
3. Dr. Bray layd before this Society an account of his Benefactions and Disbursements by wch it appear's that he has disburs'd of his own money six hundred thirty one pounds.
4. Dr. Lucas and Mr. Seymour approv'd of.
5. Order'd that Mr. Melmouth and Mr. Bromfield do desire them to attend.
6. Dr. Daniel Cox propos'd a Second time.
7. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Justice Hooke do enquire concerning him.
8. Mr. Nelson[1] propos'd the first time.

15 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Sr Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Shute, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Shute report's that he has begun a Subscription in White Chappell.

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[1] Robert Nelson, who afterwards took a large part in the Society's work.

2. Mr. Bridges reports that the Societys in St. Martins will goe near to make up the Subscription themselves.
3. A Letter read from Mr. Woodward that the School will be supported.
4. George Keith's Letter read relating to his Success in his Attempts upon the Quakers.
5. Resolved that the School at St. George, Southwark, be forthwith set up and that the Insurance money be charged with making good any Deficiency that may happen in the Subscription.

19 June, 1699.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Nelson propos'd a second time.
2. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Melmouth doe enquire concerning him.
3. Dr. Cox approv'd of.
4. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Justice Hook do desire him to attend.
5. Cap[t] Barnardiston propos'd the first time.

22 June, 1699.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Cap[t] Barnardiston proposed a second time.
2. Order'd that Mr. Melmouth and Mr. Shute doe enquire concerning him.
3. Mr. Nelson approv'd of.
4. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Shute doe desire him to attend.

27 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. The Lord Bishop of Glocester[1] proposed the first time.
2. Dr. Knight propos'd the first time.

29 June, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Bray, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Dr. Harvey report's that Dr. Lancaster[2] approved of the Design

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[1] *See* p. 2.
[2] William Lancaster, D.D., Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, in 1704, and Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

of Schools in St. Martins, and that he had a prospect of success in that Parish.

2. The Lord Bishop of Gloucester propos'd a second time.

6 July, 1699.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Bridges, Mr. Gardiner, and Mr. Mitchell report that the Subscription att St. Martins is begun, and like to be soon full; that the Subscription at St. Andrews amounts to nineteen pounds; and the Subscription at Whitechappell to twenty-one pounds ten shillings.

2. Ordered that the Treasurer pay twenty shillings to Mr. Chamberlayne for Mr. Mender, the German, which was paid accordingly.

13 July, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Sir Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Skeat reports that twenty-one pounds is subscribed in Cripplegate Parish.

2. Mr. Bridges reports that a Schoolroom is taken in Hungerford Markett, and that the Subscriptions are above thirty-five pounds.

3. Dr. Mapletoft[1] propos'd the first time.

4. Mr. Frank[2] propos'd the first time.

5. Mr. Keith reported his travails and good success in converting the Quakers.

20 July, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Melmouth.

1. Mr. Frank and Dr. Mapletoft approv'd of.

2. Ordered that Mr. Nelson do desire them to attend.

3. Mr. Bridges reports y[t] the School at St. George is much obstructed.

4. Order'd that the Agents treat with a Schoolmaster immediately to sett up a School in that Parish.

5. Resolved that the Society will ensure him one half-year's pay.

6. Dr. Evans propos'd the first time.

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[1] John Mapletoft, D.D., born 1631, died 1721, Vicar of St. Lawrence Jewry. Author of "The Principles and Duties of the Christian Religion Considered and Explained," &c. London: 1713.

[2] Mr. Thomas Frank, of Cranfield, Bedfordshire.

N.B.—This day Mr. Chamberlayne began to take the Minutes.

Mr. Frank, of Bedfordshire, desired to be not a Resident Member, but Correspondent for that country.

27 July, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank, Dr. Harvey, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Dr. Knight[1] propos'd a second time.

3 August, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Mr. Bridges, &c., reported that subscriptions in White Chappel amount to forty pounds sixteen shillings, and in Cripplegate to, thirty-three pounds.

2. Resolved that every absent Member of this Society doe bring in the fifth part of his subscription on Thursday, the seaventeenth instant, and that the present Members pay in their quota immediately, which was done accordingly.

3. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne do receive the said fifth parts of each member's subscription, and account for the same to the Society.

4. Dr. Evans propos'd a second time.

5. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire concerning him.

17 August, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Shute, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Shute report that they have deferred setting up the School in St. George's, Southwark, in hopes of an agreement with the Parish officers, &c.

2. Mr. Nelson report's that he has procured thirty volums of Sanderson's[2] Sermons for th' use of the Libraries projected by Dr. Bray in the Plantations.

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[1] James Knight, D.D., for some time Vicar of St. Sepulchre's, author of "The Scripture Doctrine of the Trinity Vindicated from the Misinterpretations of Dr. Clarke." With a Letter by Nelson. Second Edition. London: 1714, &c.

[2] The earliest editions of the Sermons of Robert Sanderson, Bishop of Lincoln, are: ii. Sermons, London, 1622; ix. Sermons, London, 1627; xxiv. Sermons, London, 1656. They are all in Latin.

3. Dr. Mapletoft paid in the fifth part of his subscription towards the Insuring of Schools, &c.

4. Mr. Bridges laid before this Society a Paper entituled Methods for Managements of Free Schools, which was read, debated, and corrected, and ordered by the Society to be forthwith printed.

5. Dr. Evans approv'd of.

6. Order'd that Dr. Bray do desire him to attend.

7. Lord Guilford reports that Mr. Batt, Rector of Chelmford, had made applications to his Lordship for instructions about the management of a Free School.

8. Resolved that Mr. Bridges' method be sent him as soon as printed.

[1]31 August, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Mapletoft, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Resolv'd upon account of the absence of most of the members that this Society be adjourn'd to the first Thursday after Michaelmas Day unless extraordinary business intervene.

1 September, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Mapletoft, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Harvey, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. [2]Dr. Bray being return'd from Holland, reported that he had obtained from his Majesty a gracious reference to the Lords of the Treasury relating to a grant from the King of some moneys to be apply'd towards the promoting Libraries in the Plantations.

2. Dr. Bray likewise communicated to the Society a letter lately received from S[r] Richard Bulkeley, in Ireland, imparting his design of settling a rent charge of twenty pounds per annum for ever for promoting Christian Knowledge in America, &c.

3. George Keith gave the Society an account of his mission into several parts of England, as Bristol, &c., and of the opposition of the Quakers, and left a printed account of his proceedings.

15 September, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. George Keith gave an account to the Society of the violent oppositions of the Quakers in shutting the door of their meetings

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[1] An extraordinary summons of the Society, to take Dr. Bray's account, &c.

[2] The Grant came to so little that it hardly defray'd the Dr.'s journey.

against him, and desired the advice of the Society how he shall behave himself thereupon.

2. Resolved that George Keith doe again attempt to preach in a Quaker's meeting, and if he meet's opposition, that he pursue his remedy according to law.

21 September, 1699.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Michell and Skate report that the School is begunn in Cripplegate, and about forty-four pounds subscribed.

2. Also that the schollars at St. Martins is sett up, and that the subscriptions amount to near sixty pounds per annum.

3. Also that Mr. Symms, the schoolmaster at Cripplegate, has discovered a secrett by which he can teach twenty or thirty boys the alphabett in a day's time, and has taken forty poor boys for nothing.[1]

4. Also that at White Chappell about forty-four pounds per annum is subscribed, and a master and boys ready, as soon as a School-house can be procured.

5. The Honorable Mr. Finch and Mr. Henry Finch propos'd the first time.

6. Mr. Mecken, Chaplain to the Prince of Denmark, propos'd the first time.

7. Dr. Bray reports that Mr. Ibbott, a Minister, has given one share in[2] S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth's Mines towards the promoting Libraries in North America.

28 September, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. A letter read from Mr. Brewster giving an account of a Society he is forming in Oxford, which came to nothing soon after.

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[1] See page 41.

[2] The "Mine Adventure," referred to again in the Minutes for Nov. 9, 1699, was a scheme promoted by Sir H. Mackworth and others in 1698; its object was to work some copper, lead, and silver mines near Aberdovey, in Cardiganshire, belonging to Sir Carbery Pryce, under the guidance of a joint-stock company. Part of the profits were to be set aside for charitable purposes; part were to be employed in liquidating debts incurred in a law-suit by Sir Carbery Pryce. The capital required was £20,000; some of the shares seem to have been disposed of by lottery.—See, for full account of the enterprise, Meyrick's "Cardigan," ccxxiv. *et seq.*

2. The Hon^ble^ Mr. Edward and Mr. Henry Finch propos'd a second time.

3. Mr. Mecken propos'd a second time.

4. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Dr. Evans doe enquire concerning them all.

5 October, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Brewster.

1. Mr. Nelson reports that he had received a letter from the Lord Weymouth, which was read, and imported that his Lordship would give two hundred pounds towards Dr. Bray's design of Promoting Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.

2. Mr. Skate reports that the School in St. George, Southwark, is sett up.

3. Also that Schools are beginning in Shadwell, Shoreditch, and Stepney.

4. Mr. Farrer propos'd the first time.

5. A letter read from Pennsylvania[1] giving an account of the increase of the Church there by the conversion of the Quakers.

6. Dr. Bray reports the great and publick charities design'd by S^r^ Richd. Bulkeley in Ireland.

12 October, 1699.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Bridges report's that in St. Andrew's parish Dr. Manningham has subscribed four pounds, and that he expects fifty pounds to be subscribed in a week towards the School.

2. Mr. Brewster paid in twenty shillings, being the fifth part of his subscription.

3. Mr. Bridges alsoe reports that the School in St. George, Southwark, consist's of forty boys who were the worst in the Parish, but are much reformed.

4. Mr. Chamberlayne is ordered to desire Mr. Chilton, the Attorney Generall of Barbadoes, to come to the Society to advise about a Gift of two thousand pounds to charitable uses in Barbadoes, which has been ten years concealed.

5. S^r^ George Wheeler propos'd the first time.

6. Dr. Evans paid in his fifth part.

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[1] At this time one-third of the population of Pennsylvania were Keithites; there were also two congregations of Swedish Lutherans.

19 October, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Shute reports that one of the pastorall Letters was sent to Bristol, where a Society for Reformation is sett up by the Mayor, Aldermen, Deputy Lieutenants, and principall inhabitants.
2. Mr. Chamberlayne reports that Mr. Chilton not being able to attend the Society, desire's their directions by letter about the Charity in Barbadoes.
3. The Lord Guilford was desired to write to him about it, who accordingly writt to Mr. Chilton, but never rec^d^ any answer, nor any further acc^t^ of y^e^ matter.
4. S^r^ George Wheeler propos'd a second time.
5. Order'd that Dr. Harvey and Mr. Chamberlayne do inquire concerning him.
6. Mr. Shute and Mr. Bridges report that there is a Gift of forty pounds per annum and a house for a free School after the death of two persons given diverse years since by Dr. Davenant, and that the house is now fitting up for a School in White Chappell.
7. S^r^ John Philips paid in his fifth part.
8. Mr. Chamberlayne paid in two pounds sixteen shillings to the Treasurer, being the ballance in his hands.

26 October, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Resolved that this Society will consider of a certain number of Clergymen that may form Societys, and give an account once a month to this Society of the state and progress of Reformation and of Christian Knowledge in their respective countys.
2. Mr. Farrer propos'd a second time.
3. Order'd that Mr. Bromfield, and Mr. Brewster do enquire concerning him.
4. Mr Bridges reports that the subscriptions in Cripplegate parish are not sufficient for the School, and that one of the Schoolmasters did not attend.
5. Mr. Shute is desired to take care thereof.
6. Also that a subscription is begun at St. Clements, which will amount to forty pounds per annum.
7. Also that Dr. Wake[1] will promote a School for Girls in St. James's parish.

[1] William Wake, D.D., then Rector of St. James's, Westminster, afterwards Archbp. of Canterbury, died 1737. Distinguished as having made

8. Also that the parishioners of St. Martins are very thankfull for the School sett up there, the children being much reform'd.

9. Also that about forty pounds per annum is subscribed in St. Andrews.

10. Order'd that a school be forthwith sett up in St. Andrews Parish.

11. Resolved that the members of this Society doe speak to the persons of their acquaintance in the severall Parishes in which Schools are setting up, and give an account of the names of such persons.

12. Agreed that the members of this Society will endeavour to inform themselves of the practices of the Priests to pervert his Majesty's subjects to Popery.

The Bill against Papists being past not long after, this design seem's to have been layd aside.

31 October, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, Sir John Philips, Dr. Bray, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Brewster.

1. Agreed that when any informations are proposed to be made to this Society, a Committee be appointed to receive them.
2. S[r] George Wheeler approv'd of.
3. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do desire him to attend.
4. Mr. Farrer approv'd of.
5. Ordered that Mr Frank do desire him to attend.
6. Resolv'd that Mr. Chamberlayne be Secretary to the Society.
7. S[r] Richard Bulkeley, of Ireland, proposed the first time.
8. Lord Guilford desired to write another letter to Mr. Chilton.

2 November, 1699.

Present: S[r] John Philips, Dr. Bray, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Frank, a correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Farrer, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Mr. Nelson paid in his fifth part, being twenty shillings.
2. Mr. Bridges reports that a Society in Greenwich are going to sett up a School.

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earnest efforts for the union of Christendom. Author of "An Exposition of the Doctrine of the Church of England on the several Articles proposed by M. de Meaux" (Bp. Bossuet), &c. &c.

3. Also that Dr. Wake will subscribe four pounds per annum to the School in St. James's.

4. Dr. Evans report's that he waited on Dr. Haly and Dr. Herne, who will assist in setting up Schools by the Vestrys.

5. Also that in St. Ann's parish is subscribed about fifteen pounds per annum.

6. S[r] Richd. Bulkeley propos'd a second time.

7. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Shute do enquire concerning him.

8. Resolv'd that the proposalls for promoting Schools be printed at the charge of the Society.

9. Resolv'd that the Society will establish a correspondence with one or more of the Clergy in each County, and with one Clergyman in each great Town and City of England, in order to erect Societies of the same nature with this throughout the kingdom.

10. Dr. Bray laid before the Society a List of Clergymen, in order to choose out of them correspondents, which being examined and debated, was, with some amendments, agreed to, and is as follow's :—

[This list is not forthcoming.—ED.]

9 November, 1699.

Present: S[r] John Philips, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Farrer, Mr. Mecken, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Evans, Dr. Slare, and Mr. Melmouth.

1. Ordered that Mr. Brewster do prepare a draught of a Declaration of Trust of Mr. Ibbott's Charity,[1] who has given one of the shares in the Mine Adventures to Dr. Bray for the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations,[2] upon the creditt of public benefactions.

2. Resolved that the interest of the said four hundred and —— pounds, after the rate of five per cent., do commence from Michmas. last past, and be paid to Dr. Bray or his assignes untill the whole summe be reimbursed out of the first contributions as shall be vested in the Society for the purposes before mentioned.

3. Dr. Bray reported that Mr. Edward Stephens had given the

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[1] *Vid. supra*, Minutes for the 21 September, 1699. 7.

[2] In Dr. Bray's "Memorial of the Present State of Religion in North America," London, 1700, it is stated that there was at this time a demand for forty ministers in the Colonies. The salary proposed to be given to missionaries was £50 a year for the first three years, after which the minister was to support himself on the produce of his glebe, and £20 for books.

benefit of a Decree in Chancery for eighty pounds towards the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.

4. Ordered that Mr. Brewster do lay before Mr. Justice Hook the Minutes of the said Decree in order to the recovery of the same benefaction.

5. Resolved that Mr. George Brewster be desired by his brother to sollicit Dr. Bray's Grant from the Treasury.

6. Ordered that Mr. Shute be desired to discourse Mr. Aylmer about George Keith's Catechisms.

7. Mr. Hodges propos'd the first time.

16 November, 1699.

Present: S[r] John Philips, Dr. Evans, Dr. Bray, Dr. Nichols, Mr. Shute, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Melmouth.

1. [1] S[r] Richard Bulkeley propos'd a second time, and approv'd of.

2. Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do desire him to attend.

3. Mr. Hodges propos'd a second time.

4. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Justice Hook do enquire concerning him.

5. Upon the reading of a letter from Archdeacon Booth relating to the Earl of Warrington.[2]

6. Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook do wait upon his Lordship and acquaint him with the nature and constitution of this Society.

7. Mr. Frank's letter read and approv'd of.

The first Circular Letter to the Clergy Correspondents.[3]

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[1] S[r] Richard Bulkeley desired to be accounted a Correspondent for Ireland.

[2] See note p. 39.

[3] THE FIRST CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE TO THEIR CLERGY CORRESPONDENTS IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE visible decay of Religion in this Kingdom, with the monstrous increase of Deism, Prophaness, and Vice, has excited the zeal of several persons of the best character in the Cities of London and Westminster, and other parts of the nation, to associate themselves in order to consult together how to put a stop to so fatal an inundation.

The cause thereof they believe in great measure to arise from the barbarous ignorance observable among the common people, especially those of the poorer sort, and this to proceed from want of due care in the education of the Youth, who, if early instructed in the Principles of true Religion, seasoned with the knowledge of God, and a just concern for their everlasting welfare, cou'd not possibly (with the ordinary Assistance of God's good Spirit) degenerate into such vile and unchristian practices as they now generally do.

To remedy these Evils, which cry aloud to Heaven for vengeance, they have agreed to use their best interest and endeavours to incline the hearts of generous and well-dispos'd persons to contribute toward the erecting of Schools

8. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne do inform himself of a proper person to be a Clerk to the Society.

9. Ordered that all the Members of this Society that have not paid in the fifth of their Subscriptions to Schools be call'd upon to do the same.

23 November, 1699.

Present: S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Bray, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Dr. Evans.

1. Mr. Hodges propos'd a third time and approv'd of.

2. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne do desire him to attend.

3. Ordered that Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Chamberlayne doe inspect Dr. Bray's accounts, and report the state thereof to the Society at next meeting.

4. Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook inspect this whole Journall and report what he find's imperfect in it.

5. Resolved that this Society will take off six hundred Books entituled A Discourse upon the Baptismall Covenant by Dr. Bray,[1] at twelve pence per Book bound in sheep's leather.

6. Resolved that the said Books be disposed of at eighteen pence per Book according to y^e^ printed Proposalls thereunto relating, and that the clear profitt thereof be apply'd towards the founding of Lending Libraries where the Society shall think fitt.

7. Resolved that all the Members do pay in a second fifth of Subscriptions to Schools, and that the six hundred Books be paid for out of the second fifths.

8. Ordered that S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Shute be desired to attend the Bishop of Gloucester in relation to Mr. Moor's Charity.

This came to nothing.

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in these Cities, and the parts adjacent, for the instruction of such poor Children in Reading, Writing, and in the Catechism, whose Parents or Relations are not able to afford them the ordinary means of Education; and as they look upon this to be the most effectual method to train up the poorer sort in sobriety and y^e^ knowledge of Christian Principles, so they assure themselves that the good effects which may be wrought thereby will prove a powerfull argument to engage others in better circumstances to make so necessary a provision for their children.

The success of this undertaking (whereby the education of above two thousand poor Children is already taken care for) encourages them to hope that, if the like industry and application were observ'd in the other parts of this Kingdom, the Children and Youth might be universally well principled, and the growing generation make a conscience of fearing God; and these hopes have induced them to use their utmost endeavours to prevail with all pious and well-inclined Christians in y^e^ several parts of y^e^ nation to joyn their hearts and purses in advancing to perfection so excellent and glorious a work.

[1] "A Discourse on the Baptismall Covenant," by Thomas Bray. London: 8vo. 1697.

9. Resolved that the Lord Guilford be desired to be a Trustee in the Deed of Trust relating to Mr. Ibbott's Gift.

10. Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook be desired to draw up the same.

28 November, 1699.

Present: Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Dr. Davies propos'd the first time.
2. Mr. Joseph Neale propos'd the first time.

29 November, 1699.

Present: Dr. Nichols, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Dr. Davies and Mr. Neale propos'd a second time.
2. Order'd that Dr. Nichols and Mr. Shute do enquire concerning them.

30 November, 1699.

Present: Dr. Davies, Dr. Bray, S^{r} Edmund Turner, S^{r} John Philips, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Neal, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Mecken, Dr. Nichols, and Mr. Farrer.

1. Dr. Davies and Mr. Neal approv'd of.
2. Order'd that Dr. Bray do desire them to attend.
3. Order'd that Mr. Chamberlayne agree upon terms with a Clerk, and report the same at next meeting.
4. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray may advance the sum of twenty pounds upon the creditt of this Society towards the founding Parochial Librarys in the Leward [Leeward] Islands.
5. Resolv'd that it be an instruction to the Agents for raising Free Schools that they require the parents of such children as they admitt to School to be present when their children are publickly catechised.
6. Resolv'd that Dr. Bray be desired to represent to the Bishop of London that several charitable persons have sett up Catecheticall Schools for the Education of poor Children, & that his Lordship be pleased to direct the Parochiall Ministers frequently to catechise them, &c.
7. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Skeat report that the following Schools are perfected and sett up, viz^{t} the School in Wapping, in White Chappell, at Poplar, St. Martins, Cripplegate, Shadwell, Shoreditch, St. Margarett's, Westminster, and the new Chappel near Tuttle-Fields, Aldgate, Bishop's Gate, St. George's, Southwark, and that the two

Schools at Westminster, and those at Aldgate and Wapping were erected before the foundation of this Society.

8. Ordered that Mr. Bridges doe give in to the Society at next meeting a list of such persons of quality in the severall Parishes where Schools are erected as are fitt to for promoting the same.

3 December, 1699.

Present: S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Davies, Dr. Bray, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Nichols, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Comyns.

1. Resolv'd that Dr. Evans be desired to write to Mr. Richd. Gunnis in Wales, to acquaint him that the Society will entertain him as their Clerk.

2. Dr. Daniel Cox approv'd of.

3. Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook do desire him to attend.

4. Dr. Bray report's that the Bishop of London has ordered him to give him a list of all the Catechetical Schools lately erected, and that he promised to give the Ministers and Schoolmasters his directions concerning them.

5. Order'd that Dr. Evans do desire S^r^ George Wheeler to attend.

6. Mr. Justice Hook report's that he has attended the Earl of Warrington,[1] and that his Lordship desired to speak with some of the Society.

7. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Chamberlayne do attend his Lordship to-morrow morning at tenn o'clock.

8. Ordered that the two fifths already paid in by some of the members, and to be paid by others, be extended to the founding Catechetical Lending Libraries, the giving away of good Books to poor families, and to any other means of Promoting Christian Knowledge, as well as for the erecting of Schools.

9. Ordered that the remaining three fifths shall not be paid in, but in lieu thereof every member of the Society shall subscribe a certain annuall sum, payable quarterly, and the first quarter to be paid in at Lady-day, which shall be in the year of our Lord 1700.

10. Ordered that it be recommended to such of the Clergy as are members of this Society to draw up some proper form of devotion for the use of the Society.

11. Resolved that the Standing Orders of this Society be read at least once a quarter, and to beginn att Christmas.

12. Ordered that no Corresponding Member, upon his coming to

[1] Thomas, 2nd Earl of Warrington, died 1720. Lord Grey, his father, was one of the Judges upon the trial of Charles I., and his signature appears to the warrant for execution.

this Society, shall be required to subscribe in the books of the Society, but that the matter be wholly left to his discretion.

13. Dr. Haly and Dr. Willis propos'd the first time.

14. Mr. King, of Exeter, propos'd the first time.

12 December, 1699.

Present: Dr. Harvey, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Bray, S[r] John Philips.

1. Dr. Haly, Dr. Willis, and Mr. King propos'd a second time.

2. Ordered that Mr. Shute and Mr. Hodges do enquire concerning them.

3. Lord Warrington propos'd the first time.

13 December, 1699.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. The Lord Warrington propos'd a second time.

2. Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Justice Hook do enquire concerning him.

14 December, 1699.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, S[r] John Philips, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Davies, a Correspondent, Mr. King, Dr. Evans.

1. Dr. Haly,[1] and Dr. Willis,[2] and Mr. King propos'd a third time, and approv'd of.

2. Order'd that Dr. Evans and Mr. Shute do desire them to attend.

3. Resolv'd that the Society will send to their Correspondents the little Book entituled a Help to a National Reformation, the Pastoral Letter, and the methods for management of Free Schools.

4. Mr. Shute and Mr. Davies report that Mr. Moor's Charity is already dispos'd of.

5. Resolv'd that this Society will frequently peruse and consider the advices offer'd to this Society in the Book this day deliver'd to them by Dr. Bray.

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[1] William Hayley, D.D., Rector of St. Giles-in-the-Fields.

[2] Richard Willis, D.D., afterwards Bp. of Winchester, 1723; died 1734.

21 December, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Harvey, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Order'd that Mr. Hodges do lay before the Society a Letter from the Archdeacon of Durham relating to the Practices of the Popish Priests [see Abstract of Correspondence, Nos. 63, 96, 182].

2. Lord Guilford agreed to accept of the Trust of Mr. Ibbott's share of Forty Pounds per annum in the Mine Adventure for the use of Dr. Bray.

3. Order'd that Mr. Brewster desire Mr. Symms,[1] the Schoolmaster in Aldgate, to attend Thursday fortnight.

4. Resolv'd that the thanks of this Society be given to S[r] John Philips for the Noble and Christian Example he has shewn in refusing a Challenge [2] after the Highest Provocation Imaginable, and that the Lord Guilford be pleased to acquaint him therewith.

4 January, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] John Philips, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Shute, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. A Letter read from Mr. Archdeacon Williams, from Swansey, accepting of the Correspondence with this Society [see Abstract of Correspondence, No. 9].

2. Mr. Bridges, &c., report that a School is perfected att St. Ann's for Forty Boys, and that the Subscription cloathed them.

3. Also another School at St. Katherine's, near the Tower.

4. Also that the School in St. Andrews is perfected, and that tenn pounds per annum is subscribed to a second School there.

5. Mr. Symms attended and gave some account of his Design relating to his new Invention for teaching poor Children.

6. The Lord Bishop of Chichester propos'd the first time.

7. Resolved that this Society will perfect their Correspondencies at the next meeting.

5 January, 1699.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Shute, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. Lord Bishop of Chichester proposed a second time.

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[1] He seems to have been the author of "Nolumus Lilium defamari: a Vindication of the Common Grammar." By William Symes. London: 1709. Probably refers to the well-known Latin Grammar of William Lilly; Master of St. Paul's School, 1510. See *ante* p. 31.

[2] From Mr. Harcourt, Clerk of the Peace for Middlesex.

2. Order'd that Mr. Shute and Mr. Brewster do enquire concerning him.

11 January, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] Edmund Turner, Dean of Chichester, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Shute, Mr. King, Dr. Evans, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Justice Hook.

1. The Lord Bishop of Chichester approv'd of, and accordingly attended.

2. Order'd that the Dean of Chichester be desired to apply to the Bishop of London for the easy licensing the Masters of the Charity Schools.

3. Letters read from Mr. Tatam, Mr. Ellis, Dean of Bangor, and Mr. Wynn, accepting the Correspondence [see Abs. of Cor. Nos. 10, 13, 14].

18 January, 1699.

Present: S[r] George Wheeler, Dr. Evans, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Shute, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Hayley, Dr. Slare, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Melmouth.

1. A Letter read from Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, in Yorkshire, signifying his acceptance of a Correspondence with this Society, &c. [Abs. Cor. 15].

2. Mr. Gardiner report's that there is Tenn pounds more subscribed to St. Andrew's, Holbourn.

3. Mr. Shute report's that the School in White Chappell is opened, and that it consists of Fifty Boys.

4. Resolv'd that the Lord Guilford be desired to apply to the Lord Chief Justice Holt to contribute towards Dr. Bray's Design of Propagating Christian Knowledge in the West Indies.

5. Resolv'd that the members of the Society be desir'd to think upon some instructions to be communicated to the Corresponding Members.

25 January, 1699.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, S[r] George Wheeler, Dr. Evans, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Hayley, Mr. Comyns, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook, Ld. Guilford, and Mr. Melmouth.

Mr. Bridges report's that above sixty pounds per annum is subscribed in St. Andrew's.

Mr. Nelson report's that seaventeen pounds per annum is subscribed at Lewisham, in Kent, and thirty Girls already taught in that School.

S[r] George Wheeler report's that he has begunn a Free School in Spittle Fields for Poor Girls, and for their encouragement has given them a house.

A Letter read from Mr. Colmer, of Babcary (Somersetshire), accepting the Correspondence with the Society [Abs. Cor. 16].

Another from Mr. Burscough, of Totness (Devonshire), to the same effect [Abs. Cor. 17].

The Dean of Chichester reports that he has apply'd to the Bishop of London for the more easy Licensing of Charity Schools, and that his Lordship answer'd it was very fitt and reasonable, and that he would take care in it.

The Dean reports likewise that the Bishop of London recommended to this Society to consider of some means for the better Instructing & Regulating the manners of the poor Prisoners in the severall Prisons of this City.

The Society being inform'd that there are severall Religious Societies that want and desire Advice.

Resolv'd that this Society will be ready to advice and assist them in any Difficulties, and that Mr. Bridges, their Agent for Schools, be desired to impart this Resolution to them.

Resolv'd that the Compleating of the Correspondences shall be the first business of the next meeting.

The Prayers agreed on by the Society were this day begun,[1] &c.

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[1] THE FORM OF PRAYER MADE USE OF BY THE HONBLE. SOCIETY BEFORE THEY ENTER UPON BUSINESS.

O LORD, raise up (we pray thee) thy power and come among us, and with great might succour us, that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running y^e^ race which is set before us, thy bountifull grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us, through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory world without end. Amen.

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth, send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of Charity, the very bond of peace and of all vertues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; grant this for thy only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

O Lord, we beseech thee let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church, and because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Mercifull God, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor wouldest the death of a sinner, but that he should be converted and live, have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Hereticks; take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word; and so fetch them home, Blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the Remnant of the true Israelites, and be made one fold, under one Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

O Lord, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good,

3 February, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ John Philips, the Dean of Chichester, S^r^ George Wheeler, Mr. Shute, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Comyns, Mr. King, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Hare, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Bromfield, S^r^ Edmund Turner.

A Letter read from Dr. Tyler, Dean of Hereford, accepting the Correspondence with the Society [Abs. Cor. 20].

Another from Dr. Hopkins, of Worcester, to the same purpose [Ibid. 18].

Resolv'd that Dr. Bray's Sermons of Apostolick Charity, and the account of the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations, and severall other little Pieces relating to Schools, &c., be sent on to each of the Corresponding Members.

The Dean of Chichester propos'd severall heads for drawing up a second Letter to the Correspondents, which were debated and agreed to by the Society, and a draught to be made against the next meeting.

Resolved that Mr. Justice Hook be desired to draw up an account of the nature of this Society, and wherein it differr's from other Societys.

8 February, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, The Dean of Chichester, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Comyns, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^r^ George Wheeler, and S^r^ John Philips.

Resolv'd that whoever is in the Chair at the Beginning of each meeting, shall continue there the whole Session.

The Dean of Chichester reported the model of a second Letter

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and by thy mercifull guiding may perform y^e^ same, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help, direct and prosper all our consultations and endeavours to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy Church, and the propagation of Christian Knowledge in the world, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, Religion and piety may be established among us for all generations, and that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose blessed name and words we conclude these our prayers. Our father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them y^t^ trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evill, for thine is y^e^ kingdom, and the power, and y^e^ glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

to the Corresponding Members, which, after some Debate with an Amendment, was agreed to by the Society.[1]

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[1] THE SECOND CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE CLERGY CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

THE Society which has formd itself in this City for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge have receiv'd great satisfaction from the readiness you have shewn to be one of their Members, and to keep a Correspondence with them, and they trust in God that you will prove a very usefull instrument in promoting that great work in which they are engaged.

You have in their former Letter been acquainted with the main branches of their design, the Education of poor Children in this Kingdom, and the reclaiming of those among us who entertain opinions inconsistent with the fundamentalls of our holy Religion.

The first step to these excellent ends, they conceive, will be to engage the Clergy to meet frequently together, to consider of the most proper means to carry on these pious designs, and to order their meetings so that they may give no offence to others, nor any just occasion of reflection on themselves. That the leave and direction of the Diocesan be desird. That the Laws of the Land and Canons of the Church be their rule. That the place of meeting be, if possible, a private house, and the manner such as may be most reputable to the Clergy, and may convince y^e^ world that they are carrying on the work of their great Master, the salvation of the souls of men. Now this the Society must leave to the discretion of their Rev. Brethren, according to their different circumstances; only they earnestly desire of you that you would use your utmost endeavours to engage as many of the Clergy as possibly you can to meet together at such certain times and places, and in such numbers as shall be thought most convenient. And they are in great hopes that you will succeed in this matter, since it is what is particularly recommended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and others the Lords the Bishops, in their Circular Letter, in April, 1699.

When such meetings as these are formd, they hope that the first care of the Clergy will be to encourage and direct each other in the severall branches of their own duty, since the faithfull discharge of all the parts of the Ministerial care is the ordinary means that God has enjoyn'd for the preserving and propagating Christianity, and the regulating the lives of those who profess it.

Next to this, they most heartily recommend a zealous application of the Clergy to those of their Parishioners who are of ability, especially magistrates, to assist in such meetings, and that they would subscribe liberally toward the setting up of Schools for poor Children, to instruct them in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and fitt them for employments, which is the most probable method of making them sound members of the Church and usefull ones of the State.

As soon as you have intimated your carrier's direction, they will send you a packett of Books and Papers, together with the methods the Society has taken in raising Subscriptions and regulating the Schools, which they have already sett up in and about London, which possibly may be usefull to you in your deliberations about the same things in the country.

They desire you would from time to time give them information of what progress is made in these matters, and that you would direct your Letters to me, whom they have made Secretary to their Society, by whose hands they

The Lord Guilford acquainted the Society that the Earl of Warrington had declined coming into the Society this winter.

The Lord Guilford made a motion concerning a Corporation for the Disposing of Charitable Gifts.

Resolv'd that that motion be debated at next meeting.

Resolved that this Society will consider at the next meeting of the manner of applying to the Lord Mayor and Sherriffes for the Instructing & Regulating the manners of the poor Prisoners in pursuance of what was recommended to them by the Bishop of London.

Mr. Bridges reported that the School of St. Clements wanted a Recommendation to the Dean of Windsor, the minister of the said Parish.

Resolv'd that S^r George Wheeler be desired to lay before the Lord Bishop of London a List of all the Catechetical Schools in and about London, and to pray his Lordships directions for the frequent Catechising the children.

Mr. Bridges reports that there is twenty pounds subscrib'd towards a School in St. Katherine's.

A Letter from Professor Frank,[1] of Hall, in Germany, was read relating to a Correspondence with the Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Davies, of Bodlewythan [Bodelwyddan, Denbighshire], accepting the Correspondence [Abs. Cor. 21].

Another from S^r William Davies to y^e same purpose [Ibid. 25. Qy. Dawes ?].

S^r George Wheeler reported that he had seen Mr. Dobson, the Corresponding Member, for Hampshire, and that he had accepted the Correspondence.

Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook do pay to the Agents for Schools four pounds, sixteen shillings, and sixpence expended by them for printing Proposals for erecting Schools.

Ordered that the Secretary do sollicit the Subscription to Dr. Bray's Design in the West Indies.

Order'd that it be the first thing consider'd at next meeting how to raise the money due to Dr. Bray.

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will communicate what they shall have hereafter to offer to you, and receive what you shall request from them.

They beg your constant Prayers to Almighty God that he would assist them in their deliberations, and prosper them in the endeavours they use to propagate true Christian Knowledge in the world ; and they do assure you of their joynt intercession to y^e Throne of Grace for the same blessing on yourself and the rest of our Brethren.

[1] Augustus Hermann Franck, of Halle, author of "Pietas Hallensis," 1705. See Secretan's "Life of Nelson," p. 119.

15 February, 1699.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, The Dean of Chichester, Dr. Willis, Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Slare, and Mr. Melmouth.

Ordered that those Gentlemen that were deputed to audit Dr. Bray's account do sign the same, and lay them before the Society at the next meeting.

Mr. Bridges report's that there is a new School about to be sett up in Aldersgate Parish.

Mr. Justice Hook's account of the severall Societies was read, and referred to Dr. Willis, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Melmouth, and they to examine it, and report their opinion thereof at next meeting.

Ordered that Mr. Shute be desired to confer with the Ordinary of Newgate about some proper methods for Instructing and Regulating the manners of Prisoners.

Mr. Frank report's that Mr. Wootton has accepted the Correspondence with this Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Arnold Bowen to the same purpose [Abs. Cor. 4].

Another from Mr. Willett to the same purpose [Ibid. 28].

Another from Mr. Welshman to the same purpose [Ibid. 27].

Another from Mr. Bradshaw to the same purpose [Ibid. 29].

Mr. Nelson reports that he has communicated the orders of this Society to the Archbishop, who highly approved of the same, and did designe to give it some particular encouragement.

A Letter read from Mr. Philip Bennett, Minister of Port Royal, in Jamaica, and Commissary to the Bishop London in the same island.

Order'd that Mr. Hodges be desired to write to the abovesaid gentleman, and give him an account of this Society, &c. [see p. 100].

A motion being made that one layman in each county be joyn'd to the Corresponding Clergy, and a debate arising thereupon,

Resolved that the debate be adjourned to the next meeting.

22 February, 1699-1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ Hum : Mackworth, S^r^ John Philips, Dean of Chichester, Dr. Willis, Doctor Evans, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Col. Colchester, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Slare, and Mr. Justice Hook.

The Committee appointed to examine Mr. Justice Hook's account of the severall Societies in London, &c., made their Report, wh^ch^ upon a Debate arising, was recommitted to the same Committee

and ordered that the Dean of Chichester and Mr. Justice Hook be added to it.

Mr. Shute reported that he has discours'd the Ordinary of Newgate about Regulating the manners of Prisoners, and gave in severall Proposals for the same.[1]

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[1] AN ESSAY TOWARDS YE REFORMATION OF NEWGATE AND THE OTHER PRISONS IN AND ABOUT LONDON.

The Vices and Immoralities of Prisons appear to be these following :—

I. The personal Lewdness of the Keepers and under Officers themselves, who often make it their business to corrupt the prisoners, especially the Women.

II. Their confederacy with Prisoners in their vices, allowing the men to keep company with the women for money.

III. The unlimited use of Wine, Brandy, and other Strong Liquors, even by condemn'd malefactors.

IV. Swearing, Cursing, Blaspheming, and Gameing.

V. Old Criminals corrupting New-comers.

VI. Neglect of all Religious worships.

For Reforming these Abuses, the following methods are propos'd :—

I. For the Keepers and under Officers :—

1. That endeavours be used to procure an Act of Parliament to displace and punish such as are Vitious and Immoral. But, till that can be done—
2. That application be made to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London to use their authority for reforming the Prisons. And as any officer (who hath purchased his place) dies or is removed, they may be desir'd to have a special regard to the vertue and morality of his successor.
3. That a Committee of Aldermen, Common Council, or some members of the Society for Reformation, be appointed distinctly for this purpose, who shall have power—
   (1.) To appoint Ministers, the approbation of the Bishop of London first had and obtained, and also officers to all Prisons, and shall be obliged once a week to visit them, and take an account of y^e^ state of each Prison, and give orders accordingly.
   (2.) This Committee to have power to Licence all Alehouses and Taverns adjoyning to each Prison, and they to be in the power of this Committee and visitors, and other Power as shall be thought convenient.
   (3.) The disposal of all Benefactions to Prisons (without a particular designation of the donors) to be made by this Committee.
4. That the officers be so ordered as to be made checks upon each other, and the Superiour always made answerable for the neglects of the Inferiour.
5. That officers who are notoriously lewd and vicious and have bought their places may be obliged by y^e^ Committee to sell their places at such a value as the Committee shall think reasonable, and to such persons as shall be approv'd of by the Committee for their good conversation.

That a Table of Orders, containing the Duty of Officers and Ministers, as well as Prisoners, signed by my Lord Bp. of London and the Committee, be hung up in every Prison, shewing the mulcts and punishments of y^e^ several offences, together with the names and abodes of

Ordered that Mr. Shute be desired to discourse further with Mr. Jones, the Ordinary of Ludgate, upon the same subject.

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y^e^ Committee and visitors, directing where complaints may be made of neglects.

(1.) That these Orders be read once a month by y^e^ Minister, in the presence of all the Officers and as many Prisoners as may.

(2.) That there be a short Preface or Postscript setting forth the good design'd to their souls by these orders; and passionatly exhorting the better sort to joyn their endeavours for promoting this good work.

II. Another abuse is the confederacy of y^e^ Officers with Prisoners in their vices, allowing the men to keep company with y^e^ women for money, &c.

To prevent this, it is proposed—

1. That, if possible, provision may be made to keep every prisoner in distinct cells, as is practis'd in Bethlem Hospital, but till that be done—

That the women be strictly kept in separate apartments by themselves, and a severe Penalty be laid on an officer that shall permit a man to converse with a woman, except it be his own wife.

2. That the women be imploy'd in such work as they have been bred to, and in case of idleness or refusal to be obliged to beat hemp or any other hard labour.

3. That some expedient be found out that those women whose execution is respited on account of their bellies may not thereby for ever escape the rigor of the Law, for this emboldens them in the commission of crimes which they would not probably be guilty of were they left without hopes of escaping, &c.

4. That the officers be restraind from taking any money besides their Salary in consideration of their good usage towards the Prisoners; unless in case of such Lodging, Diet, or Apartments as are more for their convenience. But let not money to the officers attone for any crimes whatsoever committed in the Prison.

III. There is an unlimited use of Wine, Brandy, and other Strong Liquors in all Prisons, and sold there to the extraordinary Profit of the Keepers. And neither Prisoner nor such as come to visit him shall be civily used except they call for great quantities of Liquor. Nay, condemned criminals go often intoxicated to execution.

To prevent which, I conceive

1. That no Wine or Strong Liquors ought to be sold in any Prison, nor fetch'd from abroad, unless in cases of necessity, and that with the leave of one or more of y^e^ Committee.

2. That all Customs which promote Drinking, such as paying Garnish by New-comers, &c., be peremptorily forbidden, and severe Penalties inflicted on the Officers that permit the continuance of them.

3. That no kind of luxury or intemperance be permitted to any Prisoner, and that abstinency and mortification be strictly enjoyn'd to condemn'd Criminals in particular from y^e^ very moment after sentence passed.

IV. Swearing, Cursing, Blaspheming, Gameing, &c., are y^e^ dayly practices, both of Officers and Prisoners.

And here it is ofered—

Mr. Michel, one of the Agents, reports that there is a School about to be begun in St. Bridges [St. Bride's], but wants the encouragement of Dr. Birch, the Minister of the said Parish.

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1. That a Register Book be kept of all the Officers' and Prisoners' Names, with the time of the Prisoner's commitment, and an Alphabetical Direction to each Name.
2. That to each name a mark be affixed, with the date of all their Oaths, Curses, Intemperance, &c. As also to the Officers' names, a note of any corruption or neglect of orders.
3. That some mark of commendation be set to their names who shall be of good Behaviour, dureing their confinement, in which degrees may be shewn, as they shall be more exemplary or usefull towards reforming others.
4. That this Register be always produced in Court at the Tryal, and also at the Release of all Prisoners, and consideration be had to these particulars. That an Ill Behaviour in Prison be made an Article at their Tryal, and a Punishment adjudged to it distinct from that to their main crime for which they are tryed.
5. That the Punishments be either Corporal or Pecuniary mulcts, both to Prisoner and Officer.
   (1.) Corporal Punishment may be y^e^ Stocks for y^e^ under officers. To stubborn, profane Criminals a confinement to so many meals of bread and water, or perhaps more weight of chains, or turning over to the common side, as is usual with the Gaoler to inflict where money is not given to buy them off, or, in some cases, a publick severe whipping before execution, which may be more frightfull to some then Death.
   (2.) Pecuniary mulcts, such as the Act of Parliament requires for Oaths, Curses, Drunkenness, &c., out of w^ch^ the Register and Informers may be considered, and after them the poorer sort of Prisoners (if they shall have the mark of commendation to their names) for discharging their Fees or Supplying their Necessities.

V. Old and Incorrigible Criminals corrupt the New-comers.

To reform this it is necessary—

1. That such offenders be kept in Separate Apartments, singly by themselves, and by no means suffer'd to converse with others.
2. That they be obliged to hard Labour so many hours in a day.
3. That when such persons be released out of Newgate they may be sent to publick Workhouses, and so distributed amongst others, that an eye shall be always had to them, and not to be released from thence but upon sufficient security given and evidence made that they are entering upon an honest employment. Nor, after their Release, suffered to depart from their abodes, without security for their good Behaviour, and takeing to some business that may maintain them.
4. For the Encouragem^t^ of those who have lived regularly dureing their Confinement, and give good hopes of their living honestly, that all good people may be advertised of their abodes and Professions by some publick notice in the Sessions Paper, and exhorted to help them towards getting a Livelyhood in their Trades, that they may not return to their old courses

Mr. Skeat, another Agent, reports that two persons have subscribed ten pounds each towards the setting up a School for Girls in White Chappel and Aldgate.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to meet att Mr. Brewster's

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VI. Religious worship is miserably neglected in most Prisons. And therefore it is proposed—

1. That the Salary of the Ordinary of Newgate and all Ministers of Prisons be a sufficient maintenance and encouragement for their constant attendance.
2. That choice be made of sober, pious Divines for this purpose, and by no means of the younger sort, or of loose livers, such as are sometimes in Prisons, and y^t^ their Conscientious Discharge of their Duty in these places be an Effectual Recommendation of them to preferments in the City gift.
3. That other Ministers as are willing, and are allow'd of by y^e^ Bishop of London, may weekly visit the Prisons, and have always free access to the Prisoners.
4. That Books of Devotion be given to all Prisoners—a Bible to every Chamber, many Common Prayer Books, Whole Duties of Man, Christian Monitors, Dr. Isham's Office for the Sick, Mr. Kettlewell's Office for Prisoners, &c.
5. That all Prisons (for Debt especially) be considered as Parochial Cures, and it is the Minister's neglect if they do not come near the practice of what is done in other Parish Churches.
6. That Morning and Evening Prayer be read in all Prisons every day in the week, suitable Sermons preach'd twice every Lord's Day, and the Holy Sacram^t^ monthly administered. And here let the Minister be very carefull to apply himself to each Communicant in examination and instruction. After sufficient notice given of his inclination to receive, and to prevent scandal and too great presumption, it may be a good way (commonly, I think, taken by my Lord Bishop of Chichester and others) to enjoyn the most notorious malefactors to sign a Paper importing a publick acknowledgement and recantation before they receive. Upon which some great offenders in Newgate have been admitted by them to the Holy Sacrament before Execution. This will be a good Lesson of Instruction to others, and, by the Blessing of God, may have good effect upon such as shall be released and make them lead better lives for the future.

It is very much hoped the Right Honble. the L^d^ Mayor and the Sheriffs of the City of London will take this whole matter into their special consideration. Considering the Reformation of Prisons may much contribute to the Reformation of the Publick; for Prisons are one great part of our Correction for Criminals, and, if they are well managed, may prove effectuall to their amendment; whereas, for want of discipline, it now generally happens that Prisoners are made much worse by them; and if an innocent person be committed by misfortune or mistake, he is commonly corrupted and turns profligate.

And care in this affair is more particularly recommended to the City of London, both because Prisoners are here in greater number then in other places, and because y^e^ Example of this Capital City is like to have an influence upon the whole Kingdom.

Chambers every Thursday, about five in the evening, to receive the Reports from the Agents for the Schools.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Melmouth do compose that Committee, and all others that come to have voices.

Mr. Martyn, the Lord Chancellor's Chaplain, propos'd the first time.

Ordered that Col. Colchester be desired to discourse Mr. Watts, the City Marshall, about the corruptions of Prisons, &c.

Resolved that Mr. Harris, of Llantrissent, be a second Corresponding Member for Glamorganshire, he having by letter desired to be admitted into the Correspondence [see Abs. 33].

A Letter from S^r George Wheeler read acquainting the Society that the Bishop of London had promised to send a Letter to the London Clergy to encourage the Catechising of poor Children, &c.

Mr. Frank reports that Mr. King, Minister of Alhallows, in Northampton, has accepted the Correspondence (but declined y^e Correspondence afterwards).

A Letter read from Mr. Raymond, of Ipswich, to the same purpose [Abs. 43].

Resolved that in the next Letter to the Corresponding Members they be desired to recommend to this Society a fitt person amongst the Laity to be a Correspondent.

Ordered that a Paper containing severall Proposals to the Society be examined by a Committee, and they to report their opinion at next meeting.

Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook, Col. Colchester, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Frank be that Committee.

29 February, 1699-1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r Edmund Turner, S^r George Wheeler, Dr. Davies, a Correspondent, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Shute, Col. Colchester, Mr. King, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Evans, and Mr. Melmouth.

Order'd that no new motion be made after Eight at night.

Mr. Brewster report's from the Committee appointed to take the Accounts about Schools, that Mr. Waple, the Minister of St. Sepulchre's, would promote a Subscription for a School in that Parish.

Also that there is a School for Girls about to be sett up in St. James's Parish.

Also that Dr. Wake, the Minister of the said Parish, would preach a Quarterly Sermon for promoting Subscriptions to the said School.

Mr. Kennett propos'd the first time.

The Lord Bishop of Chester propos'd a 2^d time.

Ordered that the Lord Guilford and Mr. Justice Hook be desired to enquire concerning him.

Ordered that Mr. Justice Hook deliver to Mr. Keith his Catechism, &c., in order to be dispers'd amongst the Quakers as he shall think fitt.

Resolv'd that the members of this Society at the next meeting do bring in a List of Laymen fitt to be Correspondents in each County with this Society.

Resolv'd that this Society will allow the Agents for Schools their Charges for Messengers.

Mr. Justice Hook reported the Resolutions of the Committee about Mr. Frank's Proposals, w^ch^ were read and debated, &c.

Resolv'd that it be an Instruction to the Correspondents to gett as many of the Clergy & Laity as they can to joyn in Societys or otherwise to promote the Designs of this Society.

Resolv'd that the severall Books and Papers mentioned in Mr. Frank's Proposals [1] be sent to each of the Clergy Correspondents.

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[1] The Reverend Mr. Thomas Frank's Proposals to the Honble. Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge.

1st. In relation to the Schools—

1. Whether it may not be convenient that a distinct account be kept from time to time of what numbers of Children are placed in each School, and what the maintenance respectively allotted them amounts to. This will at one view acquaint us with the success and progress of the Design, and point out y^e^ defects in any particular Parishes.

2. Whether an exact List of the several Subscribers may not be usefull to acquaint the Society with the names of those who are charitably disposed and friends to the design? If so, this may serve to acquaint the Society with proper persons to solicit, either in the Parishes were they live, or among their friends and acquaintance in other Parishes where such assistance may be wanting.

3. Whether it may not be expedient for a Committee to be appointed by this Society to take an account of y^e^ Agents for soliciting the Schools weekely, and to deliver in the observations in writing to the Society? This seems a means to prevent inconvenience to the Society, who are many times engaged in long debates about other matters, whereby y^e^ Agents are forced to attend long, and sometimes are dismissed without giving any account, because y^e^ Society hath not time to hear them.

2ndly. In relation to the Religious Societies, since this Society is pleased to take them into their Protection—

1. Whether it may not be expedient that the Clergy who are members of this Society do undertake the management of such Religious Societies as do meet in their Parishes, and to use their interest and endeavours to perswade other Parochial Ministers to do the like? This may be a means, by degrees, to reduce the Religious Societies to Parochial ones; and consequently every Minister will have the charge of his own Flock, and Masters will be more ready to encourage their Apprentices to joyn in such a design when the place of meeting is at a small distance from their habitations.

By this method the Clergy may prevent strangers medling with their Charge, and all confusion and disorder of what kind soever at their meetings.

2. That by the assistance of these Societies, and what other methods the

Resolv'd that thirty pounds per annum be allowed for a Clerk, that twenty pounds thereof be for his Dyett and Lodging, and ten pounds for his Sallary, to commence from the 9th of January (99).

Ordered that the members of this Society to whom the account of Societies is committed do peruse the same, and gett it ready to be printed against next meeting.

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wisdom of this Society can invent, a List be taken of the late Converts to Popery in London, &c. I propose this as the likeliest way, because the Youths belonging to these Societies are dispersed throughout the City, &c.

3rdly. As to this Society in general—

1. Whether it may not be expedient that what matters of fact are contained in the Letters to this Society be entered in the Journal, in the nature of reports; and that an abstract be made by the Secretary of all such Letters, and be fairly written in a Book provided for that purpose.

The convenience of the former will be this, that the Society will still, at their next meeting, be put in mind of the whole transactions of the former meeting. The convenience of the latter I need not urge.

2. That the several Books and Papers undermentioned be communicated and recommended to the perusal of the Correspondent Members, vizt. :—

Mr. Woodward's Acc^{t} of the Religious Societies.
Mr. Yates's History of y^{e} Societies of Reformation.
The Black Lists.
Help to a National Reformation.
Account of y^{e} Reformation at Bristoll.
Proposals for Raising and ordering the Schools.
The Form of Subscription.
Acco^{t} of this Society.
The Pastoral Letter.
Mr. Wesley's Letter in vindicacon of y^{e} Religious Societies.
The Bedfordshire Letter.
Dr. Bray's Proposals.

These Books and Papers will serve to inform and animate, and the generality of the nation are at present strangers to them.

3. That the Society desire Mr. Keith to keep an exact Journal of his Travels and success, and that he deliver it in writing to y^{e} Society, that an Abstract may be made of particulars that are material therein

This seems a short and ready way to bring us to y^{e} knowledge of y^{e} People, and the difficulties w^{ch} obstruct their conversion.

4. That it be given as a particular Instruction to Mr. Keith, when he goes his circuit, to acquaint y^{e} Corresponding Members of this Society who those are in the several counties that are disposed to receive truth, that so notice may be given to the respective Ministers in whose Parishes they dwell.

This is a means to bring to perfection what Mr. Keith can but prepare.

5. That a List be kept by this Society of y^{e} several Societies of the Clergy, and of Religion and Reformacon in England and Wales. Hereby we know where to enquire for our friends when we have occasion for them.

6. That all endeavours be used to unite the Clergy and Layity in this great work of Reformation, and let their interest and aims be the same.

7. That a distinct acco^{t} be kept of the several Charities given or proposed to be given to this Society with respect to the several branches of it.

7 March, 1699-1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Mr. Shute, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. King, Dr. Knight, a Correspondent Member, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Melmouth.

Dr. Knight attended the Society, and accepted the Correspondence for Oxfordshire.

[Dr. Knight was twice proposed for a Resident Member, vid. 27 July, '99, but by reason of his great distance chose rather to be a Correspondent.]

Mr. Kennett proposed a second time.

Order'd that Mr. Shute & Mr. King do enquire concerning him.

The Lord Bishop of Chester approv'd of.

Order'd that the Lord Guilford do desire him to attend.

Mr. Martyn propos'd a second time.

Ordered that Dr. Evans & Dr. Willis do enquire concerning him.

Order'd that Dr. Willis be desired to draw up a Letter against next meeting to be sent to the Lay Correspondents.

Order'd that the account of Societies be sent to each of the Lay Correspondents by the person that propos'd him, and that the consent of the said Correspondent be signifyed to this Society before a Circular Letter be sent to him in the name of the Society.

Dr. Willis reported the Amendments made by the Committee to Mr. Justice Hook's accounts of Societies, which were agreed to, and Order'd to be printed against next meeting.

14 March, 1699-1700.

Present: Lord Bishop of Chichester, Lord Guilford, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Shute, Col. Colchester, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Melmouth.

[1] Resolved that Mr. Justice Hook be desired to accept of the charges which he has been pleased to advance upon the account of this Society.

Resolved that four pounds be given to Mr. Justice Hook to distribute amongst his servants for their attendance upon this Society for the year ending twenty-fifth of March, 1700.

Mr. Kennett approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Brewster do desire him to attend.

Mr. Brewster reported from the Agents for Schools that sixteen

[1] This was understood of the charges of fire and candle, the use of his rooms, and other expences, for which he generously declined any gratification.

pounds is subscribed towards a School in St. Andrews, and that some eminent Quakers will contribute to the same.

Mr. Clerk, son to S^r Edward ppos'd y^e first time.

A motion made that this Society may consider of some methods for setting to work the poor children in the Charity Schools.

Ordered that this motion be consider'd of at the next meeting.

21 March, 1699-1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r Edmund Turner, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, the Dean of Chichester, Dr. Evans, Dr. Willis, Mr. Woodward, a Correspondent, Mr. Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Brewster reports from the Agents for Schools that the School in St. George's, Southwark, is in great danger of falling if not speedily supported.

Order'd that Mr. Brewster be desired to acquaint the Schoolmaster that he attend the Society in order to give a full account of the difficulties he meets with in that matter.

Mr. Brewster reported farther that there is a School sett up in White Chappell for Forty Girls, and that there is a good Mistress there.

Also that there are Subscriptions sufficient for two Schools more in Aldgate.

Mr. Clerk propos'd a second time.

Order'd that Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Melmouth do enquire concerning him.

Mr. Martyn approv'd of.

Order'd that Dr. Willis do desire him to attend.

28 March, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r George Wheeler, Mr. Shute, Mr. Commyns, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Willis, Mr. Bromfield, and the Dean of Chichester.

[1] An abstract of all the Letters lately received from the Correspondents was read and approv'd of.

[2] Ordered that a Committee do meet weekly at Mr. Brewster's Chambers to inspect the Letters from the Correspondents, and to draw up answers to them.

Ordered that all members that come have voices.

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[1] See MS. book entituled an Abstract of all the Letters from the Corresponding Members to the Honourable Society. (Portion printed at end of this Journal.)

[2] This has been since omitted, and Mr Frank and the Secretary have undertaken to manage the Correspondents.

Mr. Shute's Scheme for Regulating the Abuses of Prisons was read and referred to the consideration of the Dean of Chichester.

4 April, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ George Wheeler, Mr. Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, the Dean of Chichester, and Mr. Melmouth.

Resolved that the Prayers for th' use of the Society be read by the most dignify'd or senior Clergyman.

Mr. Skeat report's that the Vestry of Aldgate has given twenty pounds per annum to a Schoolmaster for teaching twenty children.

Mr. Bridges report's that the Subscriptions in St. Andrews increase very much.

Another of the Agents reports that there is sixteen pounds subscribed towards a School in Sepulchres.

Order'd that the Treasurer do give five pounds to Mr. Syms as reward of his industry and charity in teaching forty Boys gratis.

Resolved that this Society will discharge the deficiency of the last quarteridge to the Schoolmaster in Southwark, and make good another.

Mr. Clerk approv'd of.

Order'd that Mr. Melmouth do desire him to attend.

Mr. Melmouth propos'd Mr. Dutton Seaman, junr., the first time.

Ordered that 500 of Dr. Bray's Sermons be printed at the expence of this Society.

11 April, 1700.

Present: Lord Bishop of Chester, Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dean of Chichester, S^r^ John Philips, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Clark, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. King, Dr. Evans, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Wesley, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, and Mr. Justice Hook.

Mr. Dutton Seaman, junr., propos'd a second time.

Order'd that Mr. Nelson and Mr. Clark do enquire concerning him.

Mr. Adamson's of Burton Letter read with the Articles.

Agreed on by the Society of the Clergy in Lincolnshire, near Grantham.

The model of a Circular Letter to the Lay Correspondents read and approved.[1]

Mr. Keith reported the conversion of diverse Quakers.

Ordered that Mr. Keith's Books be delivered to him to dispose of.

Resolved that Mr. Keith's new Narrative[2] be recommended to the Correspondents.

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[1] THE CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE HONBLE. SOCIETY TO THE LAY CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Secretary, Mr. Chamberlayne, acquainted us that he has given you an account of the ends and designs for which we meet together in a Society, and of your readiness and desire to help forward these good designs in the Country, which, as we rejoyce at, so we hope to hear of some one or more Gentlemen in every County in England to whom we may address ourselves about these matters, as we have already done to a Clergyman in each of them, from whom we have hopes of very good success. You that live in the country are more likely to know what are the proper methods to carry on this good work there than we who are at this distance, and therefore we shall not pretend to give you any scheme about it, only so farr we would beg that you would endeavour to engage as many of the Gentry and Clergy in it as you can; and we do conceive y^t^ when you have a competent number, it will be a great advantage to unite into one or more Societies as you see convenient. This will be y^e^ best way to bring credit to the thing, to engage others in it, and to have the encouragement, direction, and assistance of each other. We have this farther to beg of you, that you would be pleased from time to time to let us know what success you meet with, and, if our advice may be of any service, we shall be very glad to give it as occasion happens.

This, Sir, is what we thought fit to trouble you w^th^ at present. We shall only take leave to add that as we have no other design in what we do but to promote the great ends for which our Saviour came into the world, so God has been pleased to bless our endeavours already above what we could easily promise ourselves, and we do not question but thro' his assistance we shall see much greater successes in a little time. It is possible, indeed, that your work in the Country may have more difficulties in it than ours has here about Town; but we hope they will not be so great as to discourage you, but that you will cheerfully and successfully go on in a work which is so pleasing to God, and is like to be so great a Charity to the souls of men, and which is, in truth, y^e^ noblest and best work y^t^ Gentlemen can spend their time in. God has given them a greater portion of Temporall blessings then other men, and 'tis but reasonable they should shew greater zeal in promoting his glory in gratitude for them; their estates afford them ability to do much themselves, and their dignity gives a force to their example to influence those about them. And these advantages can never be employed so honourably as in carrying on the interest of vertue and true Religion. This is the only interest we engage in; in this we trust we shall have your utmost assistance, and we doubt not but Almighty God will give a blessing on our united endeavours.

By Order of the Society,

Signd by the Secretary.

Dat. London,
11 *April*, 1700.

[2] "Reasons for Renouncing Quakerism." London: 1700.

Ordered that the Treasurer pay Mr. Keith twenty guineas as a present from the Society, which he paid accordingly.

Mr. Bromfield reports that severall persons at Rygate incline to form a Society, and desire that the Honourable Mr. Hare be requested to assist them.

Order'd that S^r John Philips and Mr. Justice Hook be desired to apply to Mr. Hare on that occasion, and that Mr. Chamberlayne send the Circular Letter to Mr. Cranson, the Minister of Rygate.

Mr. Shute report's that Mr. Kettlewel's[1] Books are distributed according to order.

18 April, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, S^r John Philips, Mr. Nelson, S^r Edmund Turner, Mr. Justice Hook, the Dean of Chichester, Mr. Shute, S^r George Wheeler, Mr. Clark, Dr. Slare, Mr. Commyns, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Wesley, a Correspondent, Dr. Nichols, a Correspondent.

S^r John Philips having acquainted the Society that Mr. Hare is gone out of Town,

Order'd that S^r John be desired to write to him on the same account.

Mr. Dean of Chichester reports that he has sett up a School for Fifty Girls in St. Giles.

Also that he has laid before the Lord Mayor and Sherriffes the Scheme for Regulating the Abuses of Prisons, in pursuance to what the Bishop of London had recommended to this Society, and that they answered that they would take it into consideration.

Some proposals for erecting the Society into a Corporation for receiving charitable donations towards the Propagating Christian Knowledge, &c., were read and debated [see next page].

Ordered that the said Proposals be recommended to the consideration of Sir Hum : Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, and other Gentlemen of the long Robe that are members of this Society.

Ordered that in the next Letter to the Correspondents it be an Instruction to them to apply to their respective Bishops for his Directions as to what other persons they shall associate to themselves in the carrying on the great Designs of this Society.

Ordered that 500 of the Accounts of Societies be delivered to the Bishop of Worcester.

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[1] Nelson's friend, J. Kettlewell, B.D., Vicar of Coleshill, Warwickshire, 1682; deprived at the Revolution; died 1695. Author of "The Duty of Moral Rectitude," &c.

Ordered that S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. King, or any three of them, audit the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, and report their opinion at next meeting.

A Proposal for Incorporating ye Society in order to Receive Charitable Donations, &c.

Whereas his late Maj^ty^ King Charles the 2nd, taking notice that several Charitable persons appeared very forward in contributing to the relief of poor Widdows and Children of Clergymen, and the good effects the same had, was gratiously pleased by his Charter, under the Great Seal of England, to make several persons therein concerned a Body politick or Corporate by the name of the Governours of the Charity for the relief of poor Widows and Children of Clergymen, and that by the same name they should have perpetual succession, and be enabled to purchase, have, and take Mannors, lands, and Hereditaments, goods, and Chattells, to dispose thereof, and by that name to plead and be impleaded in all Actions, &c., and to act all matters and things as any other Body politick in this Realm may do.

And whereas his said Maj^ty^ did also grant to the said Corporation many Honours, powers, rights, and priviledges for the Government and Ordering thereof as in the said patent is specifyed more at large.

It is humbly proposed to this Honourable and Rev^d^ Society :

That since there are much the same, if not many other motives to induce his present Maj^ty^ to be favourable to y^e^ design they are engaged in for promoting Charity Schools, &c. They would be pleased to take it into Consideration whither it would not be expedient and feazable to get a certain number of the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and other substantiall and well-disposed persons, who are willing to be concerned, Incorporated by his Maj^ty's^ Charter under the Great Seal of England, in order to the better Managem^t^ Support, and Encouragem^t^ of all Schools and Charitable Contributions thereto upon this Foundation.

The reasons why it may be conceiv'd to be expedient are these :—

That the Schools, by the Blessing of God, and Subscriptions thereto increasing, and consequently the care and trouble in looking after them, it will ly so hard upon the Agents to see the intention of the Charity faithfully answered to y^e^ satisfaction of all, that they will not be able to go thro' w^th^ it. That in some Parishes where the Schools are erected there is great want of prudent and hearty men that have time to spare to look after the concerns thereof, which defect might easily be supplyed by such a Body of the Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry, &c., who have more leisure and prudence to act, and authority to countenance so good a design.

That, in case of Breach of Trust, the Charitable have not satisfaction of knowing whom to sue, nor can any of the Trustees themselves, where the will of the Testator is not performed, sue for any Legacy that is left to any of y^e^ Schools.

If such a Body of Honble. and Reputable persons were so publickly concern'd and authorized, it would be a great encouragem^t^ to those who have begun to subscribe to this good work to continue and perhaps increase their Subscriptions who otherwise in a little time may grow cold and w^thdraw^, and for others to settle some considerable sum, or bequeath lands, tenem^ts^, &c., for the more lasting foundation of such Schools.

That if there be one common stock deposited in y^e^ hands of such a Corporation, the overplus of the Contributions in one Parish may supply the Deficiency in others, which will be a great conveniency to the poorer Parishes.

That there is an Act made—7th and 8th of this Reign—entitled an Act for y^e^ Encouragem^t^ of Charitable Gifts and Dispositions (particularly to Schools and Colledges), whereby there is a power invested in his Maj^ty^, &c., to give Licence to any person or Corporation to alien, purchase, acquire, take, and hold in Mortmain in perpetuity, or otherwise, any lands, tenem^ts^, money, &c., given or bequeathed to the said use, and that the Lands, &c., so aliened, &c., are not subject to any forfeiture, which Act we conceive may be of great use, if such a Corporation be constituted, so y^t^ if any Land or a sum of Money be left to one School, and the Subscription should fail to the support of it, that money or land may then be alien'd or applyed to the use of any other School, without being subject to be forfeited as formerly in case of Mortmain.

That it is feazable to be attain'd, it is humbly beleived, in that his Maj^ty^ hath been so much concernd himself in recommending the care of the poor to the Parliam^t^, that he will therefore be very ready to embrace a Proposal of this nature, which hath so good a prospect; and not only so, but that he will be eminently himself Exemplary in this affair, especially when he sees persons so zealously affected, and so greatly instrumental to the promoting of the Schools now on foot; so that it is hardly to be thought, if the state of this matter be fairly laid before his Maj^ty^, with due application and interest (w^ch^ will be the buisness of this Honble. Society to do, if they think fit), that a Petition on the behalf of so usefull a Charity will be refused, at least.

To avoid any prejudice or dislike that may be taken at such a Corporation by the Charitable Subscribers or Contributors, it is humbly proposed that the main body of the Corporation consist of six or of seven of the most prudent and hearty of them (together with the Minister) in each parish where any School is erected in this foundation.

That there be liberty also in the Patent for y^e^ same number in any other Parish where a School (that is not) may hereafter be set up by mutual Subscriptions to be members of the same body, and have the same power, rights, and priviledges with themselves.

That a select number of the members of this Corporation be chosen yearly as Guardians or Trustees for y^e^ management of the Charity, which may be in this manner, vizt., let there be a Summons deliverd to all the Subscribers and benefact^rs^ to each School to meet once a year at a certain place, each in their own Parish, in order to the choosing the s^d^ seven Guardians of their Charity, and let every one present, without favour or affection, byass or perswasion, as in the presence of God, write down on a peice of Paper privately the seven persons he thinks most proper, prudent, and trusty, besides himself. Then out of those papers the most votes by Balletting will be easily known for y^e^ persons that are chosen.

As to the good consequences of such a Corporation, prudently and impartially chosen, it is not easy to take a prospect of them. However, this may be said, that in all probability, if they meet with the success and encouragem^t^ that those already concern'd have had (which, and much more, they have reason to expect) then the next Parliam^t^, seeing the management of Charity and the care of some of the poor in so good hands, will highly approve and confirm the King's Charter, and withall enlarge their powers and priviledges, so that by degrees y^e^ employm^t^ and maintenance of these and other poor Children may be undertaken; and, lastly, the poor of all sorts releived to y^e^

publick satisfaction, and the unspeakable Blessings of God upon this Church and Nation.

N.B. Since y^e^ establishing a Corporation under the Great Seal of England for y^e^ Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and for some other reasons, this design seem's to be wholly laid aside by the Society.

25 April, 1700.

Present: S^r^ John Philips, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. King, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Lord Guilford, Mr. Comyns, the Dean of Chichester, Dr. Evans, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. Bromfield.

S^r^ John Philips report's that he has writt to Mr. Hare, according to the desire of the Society.

Mr. Brewster report's from the Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer and Secretary's accounts that they had made some progress therein, and would perfect the same against the next meeting.

Order'd that that Committee do meet on Saturday next to finish the said accounts.

Ordered that the Clerk of the Society do from time to time attend the members of the Society att their severall houses and lodgings, and receive of them their Quarterly Subscriptions, and pay the same immediately into the hands of the Treasurer for the time being.

Ordered that a List be drawn up of the names of the members of this Society, with the several sums by them subscribed, and the respective places of their abode when in town, and putt into the hands of the said Clerk.

Mr. Seaman approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Melmouth do desire him to attend.

Mr. Justice Hook reports that Mr. Salmon, of Mepsat, in Bedfordshire, has with great success prevailed upon the Youth of his Parish to go to School to learn to read and write, and their Catechism in the close of the winter evenings, and on the Servants of the said Parish to come to him once a week for his instruction.

Ordered that this method be imparted to the Corresponding Members in the next Circular Letter, and that they be advised to pursue the same in their respective parishes.

Ordered that it be an instruction to the Correspondents, when they wait on their respective Diocesans, to lay before them three or four of the printed Accounts of Societies.

2 May, 1700.

Present: S^r^ John Philips, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turner, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Evans, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. King, Mr. Clerk, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Shute, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Melmouth.

Resolv'd that it is the opinion of this Society that a good corre-

spondence be encouraged and maintained between this and the Societies for the Reformation of Manners and the Religious Societies.[1]

S[r] Humfrey Mackworth report's that the Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer and Secretary's accounts have perused and approved the same, and find that there is due to Mr. Justice Hook four pounds, five shillings, and ten pence upon the ballance, the Secretary's account being included therein, and that the said Committee desire a fortnight's time to putt the said accounts into a better method, which was ordered accordingly.

Mr. Bulstrode propos'd a second time.

Order'd that Mr. Melmouth and Mr. Seaman do enquire about him.

Ordered that 500 more of Dr. Bray's Sermons be printed off, amounting in all to 1,000.

Ordered that a competent number of the said Sermons be sent to the Correspondents, to be by them distributed to such charitable persons as they shall think inclin'd to contribute towards the author's good designs.

Mr. Justice Hook report's from the Agents of Schools that there is sixty pounds in St. Clement's Parish towards a Charity School.

Order'd that no Letter be sent to any person as from this Society until the said Letter be read and approv'd of by the Society.

Dr. Mapletoft reports that he had waited on the Bishop of Ely with the printed Account of the Society, who made answer that he heartily thank'd God for it, and would give it all the countenance he could.

Ordered that the Bishop of Chichester, Lord Guilford, S[r] John Philips, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Justice Hook, and Mr. Nelson be desired to wait on the Lord Keeper with the printed Account of Societies, and to desire his favour and countenance.

A Letter read from Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, the Correspondent for the N. Riding in Yorkshire [Abs. of Cor. 82].

Ordered that it be consider'd of at next meeting, and, in the meantime, that a draught of an Answer to it be drawn up by the Committee appointed to inspect the Society's Letters.

Agreed that Mr. Curgenven, of Folk, near Sherburn, be the Corresponding Member for Dorsetshire in the room of Mr. Wright.

N.B.—Mr. Curgenven writt but once to the Society, and then seemed to decline the correspondence. *Vid.* May minut. penult.

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[1] See reference to these in Preface.

9 May, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. King, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, and S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth.

Mr. Bulstrode approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfelde do desire him to attend.

Mr. Lisle's Letter read, and the answer to it drawn up by the Committee, and approv'd of by the Society.[1]

Mr. Frank's Letter read and

Ordered that a draught of an answer be made by the Committee appointed to inspect the letters against next meeting.

Agreed that Mr. Blackwell, of Brampton, be the Corresponding Member for Northamptonshire, in the room of Mr. King.

Agreed that Mr. Cryer, Commissary to the Bishop of London

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[1] A Letter from the Honble. Society to the Revd. Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough.

Your Letter to the Author of the Occasionall Letter has been communicated to the Society, who heartily condole with you the difficulty you meet with in finding good people to joyn with you in your good designs, but they hope you will not slacken your zeal, or be discouraged at your present ill prospect of success.

You shall not fail to receive any assistance or advice that the Society are able to give; they are very desirous to think it the most proper method you can take to apply yourself to your Diocesan, and if he will heartily countenance y^e^ design (w^ch^ they do not question) you cannot think of a more proper method to prevent the opposition you fear than by following y^e^ directions of your Bishop, who wants not power to reform y^e^ obstinate, or argument to win those that are well inclined; if you cannot get any to joyn hand with you, a few well-dispos'd persons might attempt to compass what good they are able. I could give you instances of very good designs begun by very few persons, and carried on with very great success. You will do well, before your application to your good Arch Bishop, to remark what Laws or Canons are unobserved by the enemies of your good intentions, and to lay the account of such particular neglects before that worthy Prelate; we need not desire a better beginning towards a Reformation than a due execution of y^e^ Laws and Canons now in force, and you are earnestly desired to make them the Rule and measure of your actions, and then the enemies of Religion will have no just blame to lay to your charge, or the charge of those who embark in the great work of Religion, in the midst of so perverse a generation.

The Society are very willing that you should show the Bishop both their Circular Letters, and one of their Members will write to his Grace upon this occasion. By order of the Society.

Arch Deacon Booth, being our Correspondent for Durham, having met with many the like Difficulties as you complayn of, may be a fit Person for you to advise with upon any Emergency.

in Barbadoes, be the Correspondent for that island, and that the Circular Letters and other Books and Papers be sent him by the Secretary.

A Letter from Mr. Archdeacon Booth read and order'd to be answer'd as above [Abs. of Cor. 96].

Ordered that Mrs. Buckner be recommended to the Agents for Schools as a Schoolmistress as soon as any Subscriptions for Girls be made in the Parish of St. Martin's.

A Letter from Curgenven, the Correspondent for Dorsetshire, read, accepting the Correspondence [Abs. of Cor. 99].

A Letter from Mr. Ellison, the Correspondent for Newcastle, read and committed as above [Ibid. 74].

16 May, 1700.

Present: S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Dr. Evans, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Bishop of Chichester, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Bromfield, and Dr. Slare.

S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth reports that the Bishop of Salisbury acquainted him that he has given tenn pounds per annum to this Society.

The Bishop of Salisbury propos'd the first time.

Ordered that the Lord Guilford be desired to acquaint the Lord Say and Seale with the nature of this Society, and to invite him to be a member of it.

Mr. Frank's, Mr. Archdeacon Booth's, and Mr. Ellison's Letters read, and the Answers to them, with some amendments, agreed to by the Society.[1]

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[1] A Letter from the Honble. Society to the Rev. A. Deacon Booth.

Your kind Letter from Easington of the third Instant has been communicated to the Society, and receivd with great sense of their obligation to such a worthy Correspondent. They pray that your publick spirit and your zeal for the honour and interest of Religion may be others' Example and your own Reward. The Order of the Justices of Peace for your Bishoprick is a very laudable act, and all good Xtians and good Subjects will have reason to bless you for being so much the Author and encourager of it.

Your promoting such good work in a double capacity of a Divine and a Justice of Peace will soon take away the popular prejudice that our Clergy should not be entrusted with any Civil Power, but keep only to their Church and Profession.

Your beginning a Monthly Sacrament at Durham will be a proper and effectual means to promote piety in that place. And the resolution for Weekly Sermons in a neighbouring Church is a true office of Charity and zeal. The Instructions you have given to the Clergy under your Jurisdiction

A Letter from Mr. Harding, of Newcastle-under-Line, in Staffordshire, accepting the Correspondence [Abs. Cor. 102 & 111].

Another from Mr. Cranston, of Rygate, in Surrey, to the same purpose [Ib. 98].

Ordered that the Secretary make an extract of the severall Minutes of the Journal that relate to the Correspondents, in order to draw up another Circular Letter.

Order'd that such of Dr. Bray's Discourses on the Baptismal Covenant as are unbound or imperfect be immediately bound and compleated, and that Mr. Shute do take care of it.

Adjourned to the 30th May.

30 May, 1700.

Present; Sr Edmund Turner, Sr Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hook, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Chamberlayne, Lord Guilford, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Brewster, the Dean of Chichester, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Clark.

The Bishop of Salisbury propos'd a second time.

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are very laudable and proper, and we pray God to prosper the good intentions of them. Some application, as you advise, has been made to the Lord Warrington, and shall be made again, to both those Honourable Persons you recommended, and we do not question but a little more experience of our Religious Designs and our inoffensive Carriage will invite more Persons of Birth and Quality to associate with those who desire to be distinguish'd by no better titles than those of serving God and doing Good.

Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, is one of our Correspondents, if you will upon occasion countenance his Endeavours, and lend him your advice and assistance, it will oblige us much, and will promote the common Cause, the propagation of Christian Knowledge, for which we beg your Prayers.

By Order of the Society.
Signd by the Secretary.

Dated London,
18 *May*, 1700.

A Letter from the Honble. Society to the Rev. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild.

Yours of the 29th Apr. has been communicated to ye Society, who are always sensible of your zeal and good endeavours to promote the honour and service of religion. They do very much approve of your good design of suppressing obscene songs, and will be very hearty in using their interest to procure an Act for that purpose, and are desirous that the Reverend Mr. Wotton would lay before them his thoughts and observations for redress of so great a scandall.

By order of the Society,
Signd by the Secretary.

Dated London,
18 *May*, 1700.

Ordered that S^r Edmund Turner and Mr. Justice Hook do enquire concerning him.

Ordered that Mr. John Adamson, of Burton, in Lincolnshire, be a second Correspondent for Lincolnshire.

Mr. Bridges report's that in St. James's Parish there is thirty pounds subscrib'd to Schools, and there will be one hundred Girls taught in that Parish.

Also that two of the Trustees for the Charity School in St. Ann's being dead, Mr. Secretary Vernon's son is chose in their room.

The Secretary reported the severall heads for another Circular Letter to the Correspondents.

Ordered that the Committee for Letters do draw up a Letter upon the said heads against next meeting.

Ordered that the said Committee do draw up a Letter to S^r Richard Bulkeley against y^e next meeting.

Ordered that the Treasurer pay to Mrs. Bray twelve pounds, tenn shillings out of the Subscriptions to Plantations.

A Letter from Mr. Horton, of Lancashire, accepting the Correspondence [Abs. Cor. 107].

6 June, 1700.

Present: S^r Edmund Turner, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, S^r George Wheeler, Dr. Evans, Dr. Mapletoft, Dr. Hare, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Clark, Mr. Shute, & Mr. Justice Hook.

Lord Bishop of Salisbury approv'd of.

Ordered that S^r Edmund Turner and S^r Humfrey Mackworth do desire him to attend.

Ordered that Sir Richard Bulkeley be the Lay Correspondent for Dublin, in Ireland.

Ordered that Mr. John Young be the Lay Correspondent for Plymouth.

The Abstracts of the Letters from the Correspondents read, to number 106 inclusive.

A Draught of a third Circular Letter to the Correspondents read, &, with some amendments, approv'd of, and ordered to be sent away immediately.[1]

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[1] THE THIRD CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE CLERGY CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Society having taken into consideration by what ways and means they may most effectually promote the good designs they are engaged in, are unanimously of opinion that the most proper method of making their endeavours successfull will be that their Correspondents make humble application to the respective Bishops of this Kingdom that they be pleased to countenance their undertaking, and to give all due encouragem^t to the several Societies erected and framing within their Diocesses, for which end 'twill be very proper for you to lay before your Diocesan the printed account of the several Societies which

Ordered that Tenn of Dr. Bray's Sermons be sent to each of the Clergy Correspondents.

10 June, 1700.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne.

The Lord Bishop of Bath & Wells propos'd the first time by Mr. Shute.

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have been sent you by Mr. Chamberlayne, their Secretary. You may also communicate to his Lordship the several letters and instructions that have been sent you by the Society.

'Twill be farther advisable for you to get your Society composed both of Clergy and Laity, which will create a good understanding between the Ministers and their neighbouring Gentry, and thereby both will be helpfull to each other in promoting the great work of religion, and for this end the Society do also desire you will recommend to them a fit person among the Laity to whom they may also address themselves for his Assistance in carrying on this good Design.

The Society have read an account of a method lately used with good success by a Minister of a Parish in Bedfordshire, not unworthy to be transmitted to you. He has prevailed with those people who could not spare their Children and Servants from work in the short days of winter to send them to School in the evenings, whereby they learn to read and write, and to say their Catechism without loss of time in their necessary and worldly employments. The same worthy person does permit the Servants of his Parish to have access to his house one evening in the week, whereby they have been well instructed in the principles of Religion, and have been prevail'd on to give an account of their knowledge publickly in the Church. And this is a method w[ch] possibly might be very conveniently put in practice in some places in your County, and especially in the smaller Parishes.

You will receive some Sermons of the Reverend Dr. Bray's, which you are desired to distribute as you shall see most convenient for the promoting of Religion; the design and proposals therein mentiond are of such exceeding great use and benefit that the Society could not forbear transmitting the same to you; and as they have encouraged it according to the several capacity of their Members, so they thought it would not be amiss to exhort you to the same endeavours; indeed, it is a melancholy thing to consider how great a part of the world does remain in gross darkness and ignorance; but it would be a shame to our Nation if those plantations and collonies which are under its jurisdiction should remain unprovided of proper means of instruction, without which they will neither understand the Principles nor Practices of our Holy Religion.

By Order of the Society.
Signd by the Secretary.

Dated London,
8 *June*, 1700.

12 June, 1700.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

The Lord Bishop of Bath & Wells propos'd a second time.

Ordered that Mr. Shute & Mr. Chamberlayne doe enquire concerning him.

13 June, 1700.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Davies, a Correspondent, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Bromfield, and Mr. Comyns.

The Lord Bishop of Bath & Wells approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Shute do desire him to attend.

The Secretary reported the imperfect Minutes.

Ordered that Mr. Brewster be desired to give an account of what has been farther done about Mr. Stephen's Benefaction.

This Benefaction came to nothing.

20 June, 1700.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Clarke, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Kennett, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Comyns.

Mr. Kennett acquainted the Society that Mr. Griffith had accepted of the Correspondence for Barkshire.

The Agents for Schools reported that there is a School sett up in St. Peter's Poors for the teaching twenty Boys gratis.

Also that some of the Schoolmasters had extorted money from some of the Children.

Resolved that no Schoolmaster be allowed to receive any sort of Present or Gratuity from the Children upon pain of forfeiting his office.

Also that there is thirty pounds more subscribed to Charity Schools in Aldgate.

Resolved that one of Dr. Bray's Books, intituled a Discourse upon the Baptismal Covenant, be given to each of the Religious Societies to the number of 36.

Mr. Nelson reported that the Lord Weymouth had given twenty pounds to be dispos'd of as the Society shall think fitt.

Ordered that Mr. Nelson return his Lordship the thanks of this Society.

Ordered that Mr. Lloyd be the Lay Correspondent for Carmarthenshire.

Ordered that the Committee for inspecting the Society's Letters do peruse them from time to time, and draw up particular answers to them, and communicate the same to the Society.

27 June, 1700.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, S[r] Hum. Mackworth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Lord Bishop of Bath & Wells, the Dean of Chichester, and Dr. Evans.

Mr. Brewster reported that Mr. Blackwell has accepted the Correspondence for Northamptonshire.

A draught of a Letter to Sir Richard Bulkeley read and recommitted to Dr. Evans, Mr. Frank, and Mr. Brewster. (Upon y[e] news of Sir Richard's speedy coming over, the Letter was dropt.)

S[r] Humfrey Mackworth reported from the Committee that waited on the Lord Keeper that they had presented his Lordship with the printed account of Societies, and desired his Lordship's countenance to this Society, and that his Lordship answered he would shew it all the favour and countenance he could, and that the Ld. Bp. of Bath & Wells at the same time did recommend the same.

A motion being made for addressing to S[r] Thos. Cook, in relation to the disposall of his great Charity,

Ordered that the matter be referred to the abovesaid Committee, and that Mr. Bulstrode and Mr. Comyns be added to the same.

Mr. Nicholas Pitt propos'd the first time by Dr. Evans.

Mr. Little, the Lord Keeper's Chaplain, propos'd the first time by Mr. Shute.

Resolv'd that Professor Frank, of Hall, in Germany, be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

Resolv'd that a Committee be appointed to inspect the Proceedings of the Religious Societys.

Resolv'd that the Dean of Chichester, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Evans, & Mr. Frank be that Committee.

4 July, 1700.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

Ordered that Mr. Selyard be the Lay Correspondent for Surrey.

A Letter from Mr. Price, of Wrexham, read relating to his Curate, Mr. Evans, that is going to Pensylvania [Abs. Cor. 127].

Ordered that Mr. Shute do deliver to the said Mr. Evans 200 of the Welsh Pastorals at the charges of this Society.

Mr. Little propos'd a second time.
Ordered that Dr. Evans and Mr. Shute do enquire concerning him.
Mr. Reynolds proposed the first time by Mr. Shute.

11 July, 1700.

Present: The Dean of Chichester, Dr. Evans, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Bromfield.

Ordered that S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Evans, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Comyns, and Mr. Melmouth, or any three of them, do audit the accounts of the Treasurer and the Secretary, on Saturday next, about six in the evening, and report the same to the Society.

A Letter from S^r^ Bichard Bulkeley read, wherein he desire's the advice of the Society about the settlement of twenty pounds per annum for ever for the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the West Indies.

Mr. Pitt propos'd a second time.
Ordered that Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Seaman do enquire about him.

S^r^ Edmund Turner propos'd Mr. Samuell Harris, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln, the first time.

Mr. Little approv'd of.
Ordered that Mr. Shute do desire him to attend.

The Dean of Chichester reported from the Committee appointed to inspect the Proceedings of the Religious Societies, that the said Religious Societies did, by four of their members, desire the advice of this Society whether the engaging in the design of reformation of manners should be recommended in general to all the members of the said Societies, or only to some select persons amongst them.

Resolved that it is the opinion of this Society that it should be recommended to all the members of the Religious Societies to be assisting in giving information of any notorious immorality, since such information will be managed by the discretion of the fillers up of the warrants of the committee of twelve, and of the Superior Society for Reformation of manners.

Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to the Stewards of the said Societies.

The Dean reported likewise that the Committee did recommend to the said Societies that they would apply themselves to the severall Ministers of the parishes in which they meet for their countenance & direction.

Resolv'd that this Society do approve of their advice of the Committee, and that they will be assistant to the Religious Societies in their application.

Ordered that Mr. Wilson, Rector of Morley, be a second Correspondent for Derbyshire.

Dr. Evans reported that the Bishop of Worcester had recommended Dr. Jephcott, Minister of Evesham, for a Correspondent with this Society, in the room of Dr. Hopkins deceased, for the county of Worcester.

Resolved that Dr. Jephcott be the Correspondent for Worcestershire.

18 July, 1700.

Present: Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Little, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Seaman, & Mr. Bulstrode.

The Society having taken into consideration Mr. Evans's Design for Philadelphia,[1]

Order'd that a summ not exceeding six pounds (including the charge of the 200 Pastorall Letters already allow'd of) be layd out in Books for his use.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to consider of proper Books on this occasion.

Order'd that Dr. Evans, Mr. Frank, and Mr. Hodges, or any two of them, be that Committee, and they to meet at Child's Coffee-house[2] on Saturday next, at eight in the morning.

Mr. Reynolds propos'd a second time.

Order'd that Mr. Frank and Mr. Little do enquire concerning him.

Mr. Pitt approv'd of.

Order'd that Dr. Evans do desire him to attend.

Mr. Keith attended the Society, and gave them the Property of a Sheet of Paper, lately published by him, and entituled a Serious Call to the Quakers.

A Draught of a Letter for enlarging the number of the Correspondents was offer'd by Mr. Frank, and read and approv'd of.[3]

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[1] The only Protestant minister at this time in Pennsylvania was stationed at Philadelphia. *Vide* Bray's Memorial.

[2] Child's Coffee House. "Sir Hans Sloane, Dr. Edmund Holley, and myself were once together at Child's Coffee-house in St. Paul's Church Yard." —*Whiston.*

[3] THE FOURTH CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE HONBLE. SOCIETY TO THEIR CORRESPONDENTS, IN ORDER TO ENLARGE THE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, as they do with much pleasure reflect on your cheerfull concurrence with their Designs, so they are not insensible what rubs and delays a work of that kind must needs meet w^th^all, when it is managed only by a few hands. Wherefore, having receivd a good Character of the Revd. A B and C D, as men pious and zealous for the honour of God and the interest of the Establish'd Church, they do desire you to acquaint them with the Nature and Design of their Union, and that they

Ordered that the said Letter be sent to the severall Correspondents as occasion shall offerr.

Mr. Nelson reported that, according to order, he had, in the name of the Society, written a Letter of Thanks to the Lord Weymouth for his late gift of twenty pounds, to which Letter his Lordship returned him this answer :—

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE L^d^ WEYMOUTH TO MR. NELSON, A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.

S^r^,—As I am sensible I do not deserve, so I am sure I did not expect thanks for the mite I threw into the Corban. May the endeavours of those worthy persons who employ themselves in doing good to the Soules of men be rewarded by the visible amendment of this sinfull Nation. I beseech you return my thanks to them, and if upon occasion any money is wanting to carry on their generous designs, upon notice from you, I shall be a ready Contributor, and be obliged to you for the opportunity.

I am glad Dr. Bray is arrived safe at his station, and hope the Bishops will make him one of their number, that he may have some power over y^e^ Clergy of that new World. I am, with great truth,

S^r^,

Your most affec^ate^, humble Servant,

WEYMOUTH.

Dated Long Leat,
6 *July*, 1700.

25 July, 1700.

Present: Mr. Littel, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Clark, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Dr. Evans, Mr. Melmouth, and Dr. Bray.

Mr. Harris and Mr. Reynolds approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Shute do desire them to attend.

Dr. Bray gave in a Memoriall to the Society containing the reasons of his return to England, which were read and approv'd of.[1]

Ordered that the thanks of this Society be returned to Dr. Bray for his extraordinary care and pains in his late expedition.

Ordered that the said Memoriall be printed and communicated to the Corresponding Members.

Order'd that a Committee do prepare the said Memorial for the Press.

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would be glad to enter into a Correspondence with them, and are ready to assist them as occasion shall be offered. So soon as I receive an account of their ready compliance with this overture, either from you or them, I shall take care to trasmit to their hands the several papers of the Society, in the meantime remaining, &c.

By Order of the Society.
Signed by the Secretary.

Dated London.
July, 1700.

[1] This refers to Dr. Bray's return from the West Indies.

Order'd that Mr. Shute, Mr. Littel, and Mr. Brewster be the said Committee, and that they meet on Friday at 12, at Nixon's Coffee-house.

Mr. Frank reported from the Committee appointed to consider of proper Books to be sent with Mr. Evans to Philadelphia, that they had considered of the same, and had agreed upon a list of books, which was read, and referred to the examination of Dr. Bray.

A Letter read from Dr. Jephcott accepting the correspondence for Worcestershire [Abs. Cor. 139].

Ordered that Col. Dudley be the Lay Correspondent for the Isle of Wight.

Order'd that Mr. Dorrington be a second Correspondent for Kent.

Order'd that Mr. John Davies, of Bodlewythan, be the Correspondent for Flintshire.

Order'd that Mr. Whettam, of Northockingdon, be the Correspondent for Essex.

Mr. Bridges acquainted the Society that he had advice from Dr. Manningham that a School is begunn at Windsor.

Ordered that three thousand of Mr. Keith's Broadsheets be printed at the charge of the Society.

Order'd that the Books and Papers printed at the charges of the Society be lodged at Mr. Brewster's Chambers.

Order'd that two thousand of the Papers called the Account of Societies, with some amendments, be reprinted at the expence of the Society.

Order'd that Mr. Shute take care of the printing them.

1 August, 1700.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Kennett.

Mr. Skeat, one of the Agents for Schools, reported that there is twenty-five pounds subscrib'd towards raising a School in Algate, but that five or six pounds more is wanting to compleat it, and that there is tenn pounds given by a charitable lady towards a School for Girls.

Mr. Nelson reported that he having writt to the Bishop of York for the encouragement of Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, received for answer that he had already encouraged a Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge in Nottingham by subscribing ten pounds to it, and that he would do the like in Cleveland as soon as Mr. Lisle made application to him.[1]

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[1] A Letter from the A. Bishop of York to Mr. Nelson, a Member of the Society.

I had the Favour of yours May 10th last, and I always designed to return you an Answer to it as soon as I had talked with Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough,

Mr. Brewster reported from the Committee appointed to prepare Dr. Bray's Memorial for the Press that they had printed a proof, which was read and agreed to.

Ordered that the said Committee prepare a Letter to be sent, together with the said Memoriall, to each of the Clergy Correspondents.

Order'd that Mr. Dufray [elsewhere Deffray and D'Effray], of Old Rumney [Romney], be an additional Correspondent for Kent.

8 August, 1700.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Dorrington, a Correspondent, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Reynolds, & Mr. Nelson.

A Letter read from Col. Dudley, the Lay Correspondent for the Isle of Wight [Abs. Cor. 144].

Order'd that Mr. Nelson be desired to apply to his Grace the Arch-Bishop of Canterbury that he would please to bestow a certain number of his Circular Letters to the Society in order to disperse them, or for his leave to print them.

Mr. Dorrington attended, and signify'd his acceptance of the Correspondence.

Order'd that Mr. Keith's broad sheets be sent to each of the Correspondents as occasion shall offerr.

Order'd that Mr. Nelson be desired to return the thanks of the Society to his Grace the Arch Bishop of York for encouraging the Societies for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge.

Mr. Nelson acquainted the Society that the Arch Bishop was well pleased with the reasons of Dr. Bray's return from the West Indies, and said that it will be of the greatest consequence imaginable to the establishment of religion in those parts.

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upon whose account it was writ. But he has not yet either come or sent to me, and that is the reason why you have not hitherto heard from me.

What steps he has made in Cleveland towards the setting up such a Society there for the promoting Xtian Knowledge as your Paper gives an account of I do not know. But this I do assure you, that what he and the Gentry and the Clergy of Cleveland shall think fit to do in that kind shall be so far from being discouraged by me, that I shall be ready to give them both my Countenance and Assistance. I think they have such a Society at Nottingham, for the Encouragement of which I lately subscribed Ten Pounds, and I am ready to do the same for them in Cleveland when there is occasion for it, &c.

Sr,

Your affectionate, humble servant,

20 *July*, 1700. Jo. Ebor.

On consideration it was thought fitt to alter Dr. Bray's memorial into the form of a Letter, and to add a Postscript, to be sent to each of the Correspondents.

Order'd that the said Letter, not exceeding 500 copies, be printed at the charge of the Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Bridges, now in Lancashire, desiring some recommendations from the Society into that County.

Order'd that the Secretary do write to the Bishop of Chester to request his Lordship's countenance to him.

15 August, 1700.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Little, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

Mr. Nelson reported that he had apply'd to the Arch Bishop for some copies of his Circular Letter, in order to disperse them amongst the Correspondents with this Society, and that his Grace was pleased to say that he would order his printer to prepare as many as the Society desired.

Ordered that the Committee for Letters do draw up a Letter to S^{r} Richard Bulkeley relating to his intended Charity for Promoting Christian Knowledge in the West Indies.

Order'd that Mr. Thomas be an additional Correspondent for Carmarthenshire.

Order'd that Col. Nicholson, the Governor of Virginia, be a Correspondent for that Province.

Ordered that the Committee for Letters do draw up against next meeting a Letter to Col. Nicholson,[1] in the name of the Society, acknowledging his great services in the Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.[2]

Order'd that the Secretary do look over the abstracts of all the

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[1] Col. Francis Nicholson, Governor of Virginia, who is highly praised by Dr. Bray in his Memorial, is accused of having acted from interested motives in his charities to the clergy and his labours on behalf of the Virginia College, by the author of the "History and Present State of Virginia." London: 1705.

[2] To the Honourable Coll. Nicholson, Governor of Virginia.

S^{r},—The singular character which the Honourable Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge have received of your Excellency, especially on the account of your noble Enterprizes in Foundations for y^{e} same over the whole Continent of North America, makes them ambitious to have you a Member. And if you please to acquaint them wherein they can be serviceable to your great Designs, either in your own Governm^{t} or in those Infant Churches w^{ch}

Letters from the Correspondents against next meeting, and make report to the Society which of them require a particular answer.

A Letter read from Mr. Burscough, of Totness, recommending the translation of Grotius De Veritate Christianæ Religionis into Arabic [Abs. of Cor. 136].

Order'd that Dr. Bray do make enquiry whither that Book was ever translated, and whither any part of Mr. Boyle's[1] Charity ha's been that way apply'd.

Order'd that Mr. Tomlison be an additional Correspondent for New Castle.

Ordered that Mr. Reed and Mr. Cary be the additional Correspondents for Bristol.

Ordered that Mr. Smith, Vicar of Gainsborough, be the additional Correspondent for Lincolnshire.

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you do so nobly Patronize. You will find them not wanting to answer your Expectations to y^e^ utmost of their Interest and ability.

The main part of their Design, with relation to America, is to assist Dr. Bray in Raising of Libraries for the Clergy, and in Distributing practicall Books amongst the Laity. The former of these seems to be so particularly wanting, as an Encouragement to be given to Ministers to go into those parts where, as yet, scarcely any other Encouragement can be procured for them, that they fear they shall not be in any capacity to serve the Clergy of Virginia in that respect so soon as they could wish. Nor, indeed, can they do much in the latter in this their Infancy, under the great Charges they are at present, as well at home as abroad. However, as a Testimony of their good will, they have sent by Mr. Andrews a small specimen, to be distributed at the discretion of your Excellency.

They are very confident it will be very pleasing to so publick a spirited person as yourself to hear of any Progress towards the Amendment of a very bad World. And therefore have sent you the Account of these several Societies with us, and what is done by them in pursuance of that Blessed End. S^r^, it is high time that the few good people w^ch^ seem to be left should know and mutually support one another in such great difficulties as do ever attend the attempts of destroying Satan's Kingdom more than any other Enterprize. And therefore hope you will readily add yourself for those purposes to the Society.

I am,

Hon^ble^ S^r^,

Your most humble Servant,

JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

By order of the Society.

Dated Petty France, Westminster,

3^d^ *October*, 1700.

[1] Robert Boyle (founder of "Boyle Lectures"), son of Earl of Cork, born in Ireland, 1627; died 1691. "He bore the expense of preparing a Malay translation of the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, and of an Irish version of the Bible. He contributed largely to the cost of a Welsh Bible, and of a Turkish New Testament, and gave a large sum to the translation of Grotius's 'De Veritate' into Arabic" ("Encycl. Brit.," 9th Ed.).

Ordered that Mr. Shergold be the additional Correspondent for the Isle of Wight.

22 August, 1700.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

A Letter read from the Bishop of Chester, recommending Mr. Taylor, of Wiggan, as a Correspondent for Lancashire.

Ordered that Mr. Taylor be the Corresponding Member for that County.

Ordered that Mr. Chandler and Mr. Baker be the Corresponding Members for Litchfield.

Ordered that Mr. Newbury, of Coleshill, be an additional Correspondent for Warwickshire.

Ordered that Mr. Neau be the Lay Correspondent for New York.

Ordered Mr. de Beringhen be the Lay Correspondent for the Hague, in Holland.

Order'd that the Committee for Letters do draw up two Letters to th' above-named Lay Correspondents.

A Letter from Mr. Deffray, of Old Rumney, accepting the Correspondence.

12 September, 1700.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Chamberlayne.

Ordered that Mr. Vaughan, be an additional Lay Correspondent for Carmarthenshire.

The Secretary reported the abstracts of such of the Correspondents Letters as required particular answers.

Order'd that an exact account be kept distinctly of all Gifts made to the Society for perpetuity, for life, or for certain terms of years.

Ordered that the Secretary do write to the Bishop of Ely to desire his Lordship to recommend to this Society a Correspondent for Cambridgeshire.

Ordered that Mr. Styth & Mr. Atherton, of Liverpool, be the additional Correspondents for Lancashire.

Ordered that Arch Deacon Entwistle be the Corresponding Member for Chester.

Mr. Hodges report's that Mr. Charles Torriano ha's given tenn pounds to this Society, whereof five pounds are to be apply'd to the Plantations, and five pounds to Schools and other charitable uses.

Dr. Bray report's that he had perused and approved of the list of Books that were allow'd by the Society to Mr. Evans, and that the price of the same amounted to twelve pounds eleaven shillings.

Ordered that the said summe of twelve pounds eleaven shillings be allow'd upon account.

Ordered that S^{r} Francis Molineux be the Lay Correspondent for Nottinghamshire.

Ordered that Mr. Knight [1] be the Lay Correspondent for Devonshire.

Ordered that Mr. Heslen be the Lay Correspondent for Chichester.

Ordered that two dozen copies of a Book call'd an Address to those of the Romish Communion,[2] &c., to be sent to Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, to be dispers'd by him amongst the Papists of Lancashire.

A Letter read from Mr. Blackwell, of Northamptonshire, promising a benefaction to the Society, and particularly to Dr. Bray [Abs. of Cor. 156].

Ordered that the Committee for Letters draw up a Letter of Thanks to the said Mr. Blackwell.

A Letter from the Bishop of Man [Bp. Wilson], accepting the Correspondence for that island [Abs. of Cor. 161].

Another from Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, accepting the Correspondence for Lancashire [Ibid. 159].

Another from Mr. Bourn and Mr. Leith, accepting the Correspondence for Bedford [Ibid. 160].

19 September, 1700.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Mr. Kennett, Mr. Brewster, Mr Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Harvey, & Mr. Shute.

A Letter read from the Bishop of Chester giving an account of severall Societies begunn by his Lordship.

Ordered that the Secretary return his Lordship the thanks of the Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Chandler and Mr. Baker accepting the Correspondence [Abs. of Cor. 165].

A Letter read from Mr. De Berringham [de Beringhen of the Hague].

Ordered that the said Letter be read again at a full meeting, and that the Secretary do in the mean time acquaint him that the Society return him their thanks, and will consider of the things proposed in his Letter.

Ordered that Mr. Hodges return Mr. Torriano the thanks of the Society for his gift of tenn pounds.

Ordered that the Secretary apply to Dr. Willis to procure some copies of the Book call'd An Address to those of the Romish Communion, for the use of this Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Welshman, of Lapworth, recommending the Lord Digby and Mr. Colmer, of Warwick, for Lay Correspondents [Abs. of. Cor. 162].

Ordered that the Lord Digby and Mr. Colmer be the Lay Correspondents for Warwickshire.

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[1] For Knight read Mr. Richd. King, of Exeter.—*Vid. infra*, 19 Sept., minut. penult.

[2] "A Charitable Address to all who are of the Communion of the Church of Rome," by Edward Lord Bishop of Tuam. London: 12mo., 118 pp.

Ordered that four thousand copies of a little Book, call'd the Christian's Way to Heaven,[1] be printed at the charges of this Society.

Ordered that one hundred copies of the Christian Monitor,[2] five hundred of the first part of the Pastorall Letter, and five hundred of the second part of the same, and one thousand of the Christian Way to Heaven be delivered to the Reverend Mr. Andrews, in order to be dispersed amongst the poor of Virginia,[3] according as the Governour shall direct.

A Letter read from S^r George Wheeler, recommending Dr. Morton, the Arch Deacon of Northumberland, for an additional Correspondent [Abs. Cor. 163].

Ordered that Arch Deacon Morton be the additional Correspondent for Warwickshire.[4]

Ordered that Mr. John Gibson be the Lay Correspondent for the N. Riding in Yorkshire.

Ordered that Mr. King be the Lay Correspondent for Exeter.

Ordered that two pounds, fourteen shillings, and six pence, disburs'd by Dr. Bray for the Buriall of a Missionary, be allowd him out of the Fund of this Society.

26 September, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Hare, Mr. Chamberlayne, & Mr. Hodges.

A Letter from Mr. Frank read.

A Draught of a Letter of Thanks to Mr. Blackwell read and approved of.

A Letter read from Mr. Arch Deacon Booth, the 6th of 7^ber^ [Sept.] 1700.

Ordered that Mr. Hook, Mr. Brewster, and the Secretary prepare an answer to the said Letter, to be laid before the Society at the next meeting.

The Agents for Schools report that there is forty pounds subscribed towards a School in St. Sepulcher's Parish.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do wait on Mr. Neal, and acquaint him with the proceedings and progress of the affairs of this Society, because of

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[1] "The Christian's Way to Heaven; or What he must do to be Saved. By a Divine of the Church of England." Fifth edition. London: 1726. It is an exposition of Acts xvi. 30, 31.

[2] The "Christian Monitor, containing an Earnest Exhortation to an Holy Life: with some Directions in order thereto" (Anonymous). London: 42nd edition, 1759.

[3] The author of "The History and Present State of Virginia" (London: 1705) says of the Virginians: "They live in so happy a climate, and have so fertile a soil, that nobody is poor enough to want food, though they have abundance of people that are lazy enough to deserve it." This highly-coloured picture was probably intended to encourage emigration.

[4] For Warwickshire read Northumberland.

his being so considerable a benefactor, and that he cannot attend by reason of his deafness.

3 October, 1700.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, & Dr. Slare.

The Society having taken notice of some mistakes of their Clerk,

Resolved that this Society will consider of his qualifications at another Meeting.

The Draught of a Letter to Col. Nicholson read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent him [see p. 76, note].

Mr. Bridges report's that there is twenty pounds per annum subscribed to St. Andrew's Parish towards a School for teaching and cloathing forty Girls.

Ordered that the Secretary overlook the minutes, and report at next meeting what has been done in relation to the School in Southwark.

Dr. Slare proposed Dr. Manningham the first time.

Ordered that a bill of the Agents expences relating to Schools, and amounting to three pounds eighteen shillings be allowed them on account.

Dr. Slare report's that there are two Schools sett up at Windsor, by the care of Dr. Manningham, who has also procured a Benefaction from the Princess upon the same account.

A Letter [Abst. 169] read from Mr. Arch Deacon Entwistle accepting the Correspondence.

Another read from Mr. Smith, of Kimbolton, recommending Mr. Mapletoft for a Correspondent for the town of Huntington, and Dr. Hutchinson for St. Edmund's-bury.

Ordered that Mr. Mapletoft be the Correspondent for Huntington.

Ordered that Dr. Hutchinson be the Correspondent for St. Edmundsbury.

Ordered that Mr. Salmon, of Mepsale, be an additional Correspondent for Bedfordshire.

10 October, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Evans, Dr. Bray, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Reynolds.

Ordered that the business of the Clerk be considered att a full meeting.

Dr. Manningham propos'd the second time.

Order'd that Dr. Bray and Mr. Brewster do enquire concerning him.

Ordered that Mr. Barklay be a Correspondent Member for Africa, and the West Indies.

The Secretary reported all the Minutes in this Journal relating to the School in Southwark.

Ordered that five pounds be paid to the Agents for Schools for the use of the Schoolmaster in Southwark.

Resolv'd that this Society will make good the deficiencys of Subscriptions in the said Parish till Christmas next, inclusive.

A Letter [Abs. 174] read from Mr. Wynne of Carnarvon.

Ordered that the Secretary return him the Thanks of this Society for his Benefaction to the Plantations.

A Letter [Abs. 175] read from Mr. Tomlison accepting the Correspondence.

Another from Mr. Taylor read [Abs. 175], with a copy of a Letter from him to the Roman Catholicks of his County.

Ordered that the Secretary return the Thanks of this Society to Mr. Taylor for the pains he ha's taken in that matter.

A Letter [Abs. 180] read from Dr. Hutchinson accepting the Correspondence for St. Edmundsbury.

Another [Abs. 179] from Mr. Mapletoft accepting the Correspondence for Huntingdon.

17 October, 1700.

Present: S[r] John Philips, Dr. Bray, Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Lord Guilford, and Mr. Shute.

A Letter being read recommending the ministers of St. Albans to a Correspondence with the Society.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do prepare a Letter against next meeting to be sent to Arch Deacon Cole.

Ordered that Mr. Heart be the Corresponding Member for Portsmouth.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Neau read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent away.[1]

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[1] To Mr. Elias Neau, Merchant, in New England.

S[r],—The Character we have received of your great Worth, not only from the Publick accounts of your many years' sufferings in France, for your constancy to the Reform'd Religion, but also from your most affectionate and pious Letters, written to one of our own Members, has induced us to nominate and chuse you a Corresponding Member of our Society, being firmly perswaded of your readiness to joyne with us in promoting Christian Knowledge in our Plantations and Collonies in America, especially in that Province where the Providence of God has thought fitt to place you.

For seeing it hath pleas'd the Divine goodness to preserve and support you after soe extraordinary a manner under the rage and cruelty of the great Persecutor of our holyReligion, so as to enable you not only to be a Confesser, but likewise willing and ready to be a Martyr for y[e] same: We cannot but

Ordered that the Agent's bill, amounting to twelve shillings and sixpence, for pasting up Mr. Keith's Broadsheets, be allow'd them on account.

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think so signall a deliverance and mercy challenges our particular notice and acknowledgements, as beleiving the same Providence will make you farther Instrumental to promote his Glory and the good of souls, for w^ch^ you seem so excellently well qualified and disposed. And may it please the God of all Mercy to multiply his Grace and favour to you, and to raise up many more such burning, shining lights, which would soon warm and enlighten those cold and darker Corners of his Church in America, where y^e^ Devill hath maintained his usurped Empire without any considerable opposition for so many ages, and where such good Souldiers and Champions as yourself seem chiefly wanting.

The visible decay of Religion in this Kingdom, together with the monstrous Encrease of Atheisme, Profaness, and Immorality did at first excite the zeal of severall persons of the best character in and about y^e^ Cities of London and Westminster, and since that in divers other parts of the Nation, to associate themselves in order to consult together how to put a stop to so fatal an Inundation, the cause whereof they believe to proceed in great measure from the Barbarous Ignorance observable among the common People, especially of those of the poorer sort, and this to arise from y^e^ want of due care in the Education of our Youth, who, if early instructed in the principles of our holy Religion, could not possibly (with the ordinary assistance of God's good Spirit) degenerate into such vile and unXtian practices as they now generally do.

To Remedy these Evils, which cry aloud for vengeance, this Society hath agreed to use its utmost Endeavours to incline the hearts of well-disposed Christians to contribute towards the Erecting of Schools, not only in these Cities, but likewise in all y^e^ Counties of this Kingdom, for y^e^ instructing such poor Children in Reading, Writing, and Catechising, whose Parents or Relations are not able to afford them these ordinary means of Education, and as they look upon this to be the most likely method to train up the poorer sort in Sobriety and the Knowledge of Christian Principles, so they assure themselves that the good effects w^ch^ will be wrought thereby will prove a very powerfull Inducement to engage others in better circumstances to make so necessary a Provision for their Children. The success of this undertaking, whereby the Education of so many Thousands of poor Children is already taken care for, encourages them to hope that, if the like Industry and Application were but observed in our Plantations, the Children and Servants of our Merchants and Planters in those parts might be universally better principled and Instructed, and the growing generation make a conscience of fearing God, with not only their Children, but likewise with all their Servants, too many of which at present are designedly kept in profound Ignorance by their unchristian Masters and Governours, to the great scandall of the Reformed Religion. Little do such prophane persons think what a dreadfull account they have to give when inquisition shall be made for the blood of those poor creatures' souls at the great day of Retribution.

The Progress which this Society has made for Propagating Christian Knowledge in our Plantations appears by the noble Provision of Books for y^e^ Clergy in those parts (whereof the World has had already an Acco^t^ in Print),

A Draught of a Letter to Arch Deacon Booth read and approv'd of and ordered to be sent away.[1]

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and that so blessed a Worke may not fail of success they are soliciting further benefactions for supplying from time to time what shall be wanting to accomplish it, and they do not in y^e^ least doubt of your best Endeavours to procure what Assistance you can from y^e^ Merchants and Planters in yo^r^ neighbourhood and acquaintance, and to send us the names of such persons as you Apprehend may be willing to Joyne with you and us in so noble and Christian an undertaking.

Another Branch of our Design is to Endeav^r^ to bring those poor deluded people called Quakers to the true notions of Christianity, and herein it hath pleased Almighty God to give a more than ordinary success to the labours of Mr. Keith and others, not only in England, but even in Pennsylvania itself, where, from a Congregation of 40 or Fifty persons, their Church is already Encreased to about seven or eight hundred, and those chiefly from the Quakers' Converts.

The particular steps taken for y^e^ effecting a Work so acceptable to Almighty God, and so exceeding beneficial to the souls of men, they will be ready to account for as they find persons enclined to encourage and assist them in these their undertakings. Wee have the King and Laws on our side, many of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, besides a constant accession of New Members from the best of our Clergy and Gentry in the Several Counties of the Kingdom. Wee have the prayers of most good men, the Comforts of a good Conscience here, and the blessed hopes of Glorious Rewards hereafter; and that which Crowns all the visible blessing of Almighty God upon these our United Endeavours. What hinders us, then, under such happy circumstances, from attacking y^e^ Kingdom of Darkness, and promoting that of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? For further particulars, we refer you to the printed accounts which we herewith send you, desiring your Answer, either in French or English, signifying your Acceptance.

I am,
S^r^,
Your most humble Servant,
JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE,
Secretary of the Society.

Dated 18 *October*, 1700.
Petty France, Westminster.

[1] TO THE REVD. ARCH DEACON BOOTH, AT EASSINGTON, NEAR DURHAM.

Revd. S^r^,—You will receive by the Carrier a Memorial representing the present State of Religion on the Continent of North America, written by Dr. Bray, w^ch^ the Society apprehend more proper to be sent to the Clergy of your Jurisdiction than anything in y^e^ form of a Letter, and they hope the perusal thereof will excite their owne Charity and of their Wealthy Parishioners. The Papists and Quakers who teach School will be easily supprest by Actions brought against them upon y^e^ Stat. 1 Jac. 1 for 40^li^ per diem, which they forfeit by teaching School without Licence of y^e^ Bishop or Ordinary. Those persons who choose to pay 12^d^. per Sunday rather than go to Church may be forced to pay 20^li^ per month by Indictment, Information, or Action of Debt; but the greatest Difficulty seems to arise from the Liberty w^ch^ the Law gives

Ordered that the thanks of the Society be returned to Dr. Bray for his Memorial and Act of Visitation.

Ordered that the Charges of printing the same be allowed him out of the Fund of this Society, and that the Dr. do lay before the Society an account of the said Charges at next meeting.

An abstract of a Letter from Mr. Hales, at St. Gall in Switzerland read.

Mr. Hales's Letter appearing to be very considerable,

Ordered that it be read at next meeting, and that nothing intervene.

A Letter read from Mr. King recommending Mr. Drake for a Correspondent for Exeter.

Ordered that Mr. Drake be the Correspondent for Exeter.

A Letter read from Mr. Gibson, of Wetburnhim [*sic* Welburn, Abs. 183], in the North Riding, accepting the Lay Correspondence.

A Letter [Abs. 186] read from Mr. Frank.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be returned him by the Secretary for his very great Services to the Designs of the Society.

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to such offenders to conform at any time before Judgm[t], and thereby to avoid y[e] forfeiture, for such who refuse to frequent any Place of publick Worship will probably conform to anything rather than incur any considerable forfeiture, in which case the Informer or Prosecutor will have his Labour for his Pains.

The best way, therefore, of dealing with such persons seems to be in this manner :—

Let the Justices of Peace require the Church Wardens to give them an account of all such Persons in their respective Parishes who frequent no Place for Divine Worship, and at y[e] same Time Let others of Zeal and Integrity be imployed to make y[e] same Enquiry. If the Church Ward[s] (as usually they do) return Omnia bene, then may the Justices Instance in A B C, and demand their opinion of such persons. By this means the Church Wardens have in some Places been brought to inform ag[st] all such offenders least their negligence should be punished.

If any such Persons have been absent for 12 Months, they may, on Certificate from the Ordinary, be bound to the good behaviour till they conform. If for a less time, and the forfeiture of Twelve Pence per Day will not reclaim them, the Informer runs y[e] Least Hazard in pursuing them by Indictment.

What relates to the Quakers seems provided for by the Paper w[ch] you are pleasd to command in your last Letter.

I am,
Reverend Sir,
Your most humble Servant,
JNO. CHAMBERLAYNE.
By Order of the Society.

Dated Petty France, Westminster
19 *Oct.*, 1700.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Deffray read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent him.[1]

24 October, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Clerk, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Littel, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Foster, a Corresponding Member, & Mr. Melmouth.

Ordered that Mr. Foster, of Deverel, in Wiltshire, be an additional Correspondent for that County, being recommended by Mr. Shute.

Resolved that this Society will continue to disperse Mr. Keith's Broad-sheets, &c.

A Letter read from Mr. Hales, now at St. Gall, in Swisserland.

Ordered that Mr. Scherer, Minister of St. Gall, be the Correspondent for that part of Swisserland.

Ordered that a Committee draw up a Letter to Mr. Scherer and Mr. Hales [see pp. 89–91, 93].

Ordered that the same Committee do consider of a List of Books to be sent into Swisserland to be translated.

Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Littel, Mr. Melmouth, and Mr. Brewster be the said Com^tee^, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, on Monday morning next, at eight of the clock.

Dr. Manningham approv'd of.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do desire him to attend.

S^r^ John Philips proposed S^r^ Wm. Hustler the first time.

A Letter read from Mr. Scott, a Correspondent for the Isle of Wight.

Ordered that the Committee for Letters do prepare an answer to the same against next meeting.

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[1] To the Revd. Mr. Deffray, Minister of New Romney, in Kent.

Rev^d^ S^r^,—Yours of the 29th of September was read before the Society, and orderd to return you their Thanks for the Zeal you express in their behalf. And as nothing can afford them a more sensible delight and satisfaction then the happy Success of the Religious Endeavours of good men (to cultivate and promote w^ch^ is the very end and design of their union), so they would accept it as an obligation, if you please to give yourself the trouble of transmitting a just Account of the rise and progress of the Religious Society you mention. They are desirous to receive the various sentiments and contrivances of others, since perhaps they may some time or other prove usefull to them in their deliberations. I shall be ready at all times to receive yo^r^ commands as becomes,

Rev^d^ S^r^,
Your most humble Servant,
John Chamberlayne.

By Order of the Society.

Dated Petty France, Westminster,
19 *October*, 1700.

A Letter [Abs. 192] read from Dr. Hutchinson recommending Mr. Holland for a Lay Correspondent.

Ordered that Mr. Holland[1] be the Lay Correspondent for St. Edmond'sbury, in Suffolk.

A Letter [Abs. 189] read from Mr. Arch Deacon Entwistle.

Ordered that five hundred Copies of the printed List of Ministers inclos'd in the said Arch Deacon's Letter be printed at the Charges of this Society.

Ordered that Mr. Shute take care of the same.

30 October, 1700.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Shute, & Mr. Littel.

S^r^ William Hustler propos'd a second time.

Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do enquire about him.

Dr. Bray propos'd Mr. Ram the first time.

31 October, 1700.

Present: Serjeant Hook, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Comyns, Mr Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Evans, Mr. Foster, and Mr. Davies, Correspondents, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, Dr. Willis, Mr. Melmouth, & S^r^ William Hustler.

S^r^ William Hustler approv'd of.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do desire him to attend.

A Letter [Abs. 198] read from Mr. Heart accepting the Correspondence for Portsmouth.

Another [Abs. 194] read from Mr. Drake accepting the Correspondence for Exeter.

Mr. Foster attended, and signified his acceptance of the Correspondence for Deverel, in Wiltshire.

Ordered that the Committee appointed to answer Mr. Hales's Letter, &c., do consider also of Mr. Deberinghen's [de Beringhen's] Letter and Memorial.

Mr. Ram propos'd a second time.

Ordered that Serjeant Hook and Mr. Shute do enquire concerning him.

Ordered that Mr. Keith be a Corresponding Member.

Mr. Price, the Correspondent for Denbighshire, recommending (by a Letter to Mr. Davies) Mr. William Young for a Lay Correspondent for that County.

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[1] Afterwards S^r^ John Holland.

Ordered that the said Mr. Young be the Lay Correspondent for Denbighshire.

A Letter read from Dr. Woodward relating to the English Captives in the Island of Ceylon.

Ordered that Fifty of the Consolatory Letters to Slaves be delivered to Dr. Evans in order to send them to the said Captives in Ceylon.

Mr. Bridges reported that there is about twenty pounds subscrib'd toward a School in Clerkenwell.

Ordered that the Members of this Society do sollicit Subscriptions to the same amongst their Friends of the said Parish.

Resolved that this Society will allow five pounds for a year commencing from Christmas next, towards the support of the School in Southwark, in case there be not sufficient Subscriptions made by other Hands.

Part of a Letter from Col. Nicholson, the Governour of Virginia, to Dr. Bray, was read, wherein he offerr's his Service to the Society, &c.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do return him the Thanks of the Society, and acquaint him that the Society ha's already chosen him their Correspondent for Virginia.

7 November, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S[r] John Philips, Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Keith, & Mr. Lewis, Corresponding Members, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Littel, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. Barclay, a Correspondent.

Mr. Skeat report's that there is twenty pounds subscrib'd towards a School for Girls at Aldgate.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to draw up a new Form of Subscriptions to Schools in General.

Ordered that Dr. Bray, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Commyns, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Brewster be that Committee, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, on Munday next, at four in the Afternoon.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Scott, of the Isle of Wight, read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent him.[1]

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[1] To the Revd. Mr. Scott, Rector of Northwood, in ye Isle of Weight.

Rev[d] S[r],—Yours of the 21 October hath been read before the Society, who well approve your zeal to promote the good works they are engaged in, and they hope you will proceed therein with the same courage and resolution with which you have begun.

You will not be under any apprehension of singularity or novelty when you shall have considered the Account of the Societies set up of late for the Propagating Christian Knowledge and Reformation of Manners.

The Right Rev[d] Bishop of your Diocess, as we are inform'd, has already approvd of these good designs, since they have no other tendency but to

Ordered that the Printed Lists of Ministers sent to the Society by Arch Deacon Entwistle be communicated to all the Corresponding Members.

Ordered that the abovesaid Committee do prepare a Letter to accompany the same Lists.

Mr. Hodges proposed Mr. Charles Torriano the first time.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Scherer read, and recommitted to the aboves[d] Com[tee].[1]

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advance Religion in such a method as is agreeable to the Laws of the Land and Canons of the Church. As to y[e] objection you make about the 73 Canon, you will find, upon a strict perusall of it, that it only condemns y[e] Meetings of those who deprave the Doctrine and discipline of our most Holy Church, and if you please to consult the 4[th] Article of the A. Bishop's Circular Letter, you will find that he recomends it to the Clergy of every Neighbourhood to meet frequently to consult for the Religion in generall, which at your leisure you may read at large. 'Tis hoped, when you have perused the several bookes and papers which have been sent you, you will be firmly fixed to give your kind assistance to the good workes we endeav[r] to carry on by means of our Correspondence in most parts of the Kingdom.

I am,

Reverend Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

Dated Petty France, Westminster,
9 *November*, 1700.

By Order of the Society.

[1] A LETTER FROM THE SOCIETY TO MR. JOHN JACOB SCHERER, AND CO-RECTOR OF THE SCHOOL AT ST. GALL, IN SWITZERLAND.

Rev[d] S[r],—The Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge having receivd your Character from their good Friend, Mr. Hales, thought themselves bound, in justice to the Cause they have undertaken, to desire your Correspondence. They have unanimously voted you one of their Members, and hope you will confirm their vote by your Approbation. They suppose Mr. Hales has fully informed you of the nature of their Society, the Ends and Designs they propose, and the Measures they take in the prosecution of them; and as they doubt not but all good men will approve of them, they promise themselves actual assistance from those who are eminent for ability and zeal in the Cause of God and Religion.

'Tis this, S[r], has encouraged them to make this application to yo[r] goodness, requesting that you would please to joyn with them in their Endeavours to Propagate Xtian Knowledge, and practise, or rather admit them to afford an helping hand to those worthy Labours of yours, and others your worthy Brethren, whereby the Honour of God and the welfare of mankind are so happily promoted in your parts.

They heartily rejoyce to find soo good an Inclination amongst your Countrymen towards our Church, and hope they shall alwaies have a just and gratefull sence of that remarkable Instance of good will and affection towards Her, and our Gracious Sovereign, Her Protectour, by your form of prayer in their behalf.

Mr. Lewis recommended Mr. John Braddock for a Correspondent for Canterbury.

Ordered that Mr. Braddock be the Correspondent for the said City.

A Letter [Abs.199] read from Mr. Burscough, of Totness, signifying his Intentions of Remitting Tenn pounds towards promoting the Designs of the Society in the West Indies.

Ordered that the Secretary do return him the Thanks of the Society for the said Benefaction.

A Proposal[1] for propagating Christian Knowledge in Foreign Parts was offered by Mr. Barclay.

And as they are fully satisfied that y^e^ Purity of our Doctrine, and the decency of our Worship, and the Apostolicalness of their Governm^t^ will approve themselves to all wise and unprejudiced minds, so they will heartily embrace every opportunity of acquainting the World with them.

And this they think cannot more effectually be done than by communicating those solid and judicious Writings of our Learned and Pious Divines, w^ch^ have justly gain'd the esteem of all that have seen them, particularly (as we are informed) in your parts.

They have, therefore, presented you with a Collection of some very valuable Books, and desire you would please to accept them as a Testimony of their gratitude for the Honour w^ch^ you have already done our Church and Nation by Translating some of them into foreign Languages, and they doubt not but, upon perusall, you will think it a great service to God and Religion if [MS. presents a blank here] also be taught to speak in those tongues.

And if you intend to prosecute what Mr. Hales suggests about sending your son to one of our Universitys, the Society will be very glad to forward the design by their Advice and direction.

They doubt not, S^r^, but your Example and Authority may prevail with several of your rev^d^ Brethren the Clergy and the well-disposed Laity to joyn with them in carrying on this Glorious Work, and do already rejoyce in the promising hopes of a blessed success. They desire the favour of a Letter by the first opportunity advising them what measures are proper to be taken in order to settle a Correspondence with the Ministers of Bern, Bazil, and Zurick, and to communicate whatever else you shall think serviceable to their design.

In the mean time, commending you and yo^r^ Labours to the blessing and protection of the Almighty, &c.

	£.	s.	d.
Dr. Bray's Lectures in Folio	0	8	0
Bp. Burnet's Exposition of 39 Articles of y^e^ Church of England	0	12	0
Dr. Scot upon the Mediator	0	4	6
Kettlewel's Measures of Xtian Obedience	0	5	6
Ditto upon the Sacram^t^.	0	3	6
The 1st Volume of Bp. Tillotson's Sermons	1	2	6

Mr. Yate's Acco^t^ of Societies of Reformation.

Signd JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE,
Secretary of the Society.

Dated Petty France, Westminster, 12 *November*, 1700.

[1] This seems to have been the initiation of the scheme which led to the formation of the S.P.G.

Ordered that the said Proposal be read at next meeting.

14 November, 1700.

Present: S[r] William Hustler, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Neale, Dr. Davies, a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Keith, Correspondents, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Comyns, & Serjt. Hook.

Dr. Bray acquainting the Society that Mr. Ram make's but a short stay in England, and that his Residence is mostly in Ireland, and that he desire's to be admitted only a Corresponding Member for that Kingdom,

Ordered that Mr. Ram be a Corresponding Member for Dublin, in Ireland.

A Letter from Mr. Young [Abs. 202], the Corresponding Member for Denbighshire, read.

Ordered that the Secretary return him the Thanks of the Society for his zealous engaging in their Designs, and that he send him the Papers and Books of the Society.

Mr. Bridges reports that there is a School for Girls begunn in St. Andrew's Parish.

Mr. Shute report's that there is a thousand pounds given towards a Charity School in White Chappel.

A Letter read from Mr. Frank [Abs. 206], and committed to Dr. Bray, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Nelson, S[r] John Philips, Mr. Comyns, Dr. Kennett, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Melmouth, & Mr. Brewster, and they are to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers on Monday next, at four in the afternoon.

Mr. Torriano propos'd a second time.

Ordered that Dr. Bray and Mr. Chamberlayne do enquire concerning him.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Scherer and a List of Books to be sent him read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent [see p. 89].

A motion made for changing the day of the Society's meeting.

Ordered that this motion be considered of at next meeting.

Ordered that Mr. Barklay's Proposals be read at the next meeting.

21 November, 1700.

Present: S[r] John Philips, Dr. Kennett, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Shute, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Keith, Correspondents, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare.

S[r] John Philips propos'd Mr. Lloyd, son to the Lord Bishop of Worcester, the first time.

Ordered that John Laugharne, Esq., of St. Bride, in Pembrokeshire, be the Lay Correspondent for that County, being propos'd by S[r] John Philips.

Dr. Bray reported from the Committee appointed to consider of a new Form of Subscriptions to Schools that they had made some Progress in that matter, as also Mr. Frank's Letter, and would finish it against next meeting.

Ordered that the Report of the Committee to whome the Letter relating to the printed Lists of Ministers was committed be made at next meeting.

A Letter read from Mr. Braddock accepting the Correspondence for Canterbury.

Mr. Torriano approv'd of.

Ordered that Mr. Hodges do desire him to attend.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Hales being offer'd to the Society,

Ordered that the Consideration thereof be referred to the Committee appointed to draw up a Letter to Mr. De Beringhen [see p. 94].

Ordered that the Consideration of changing the day of meeting be deferred to this day seven night, and that the Clerk give notice to the absent members of the said order.

A Letter [Abs. 203] from Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, read, desiring that application may be made to the Arch Bishop for a Deputation to the Clergy of that County to act as a Branch of the Corporation of Clergymen's Sons.[1]

Mr. Shute reported that he did accordingly wait upon the Arch Bishop, who made answer that he would consult with the Lord Keeper concerning the legality thereof, and would act accordingly.

Ordered that Mr. Shute do communicate the said Answer of the ArchBishop to Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Skeat report's that the Subscription to a School for Girls in Aldgate is advanced to twenty-five pounds.

Mr. Bridges report's that there is twenty pounds subscrib'd towards a School in Clerkenwell.

A Letter [Abs. 207] read from Mr. ArchDeacon Entwistle.

Ordered that the Consideration of the said Letter be referred to the Committee appointed to draw up a short Letter to the Correspondents, &c.

Ordered that S^{r} John Philips, S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Kennett, Dr. Slare, & Mr. Shute be added to the said Com^{tee}.

Ordered that the said Com^{tee} do meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers on Munday next at three in the afternoone.

The Journal of Mr. Keith's Travells through severall Counties last Summer was read, and gave great satisfaction to the Society.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be returned Mr. Keith for the pains he has taken in his late Progress.

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[1] Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, founded 1678.

28 November, 1700.

Present: S^r William Hustler, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Parker, a Lay Correspondent, Dr. Willis, Mr. Melmouth.

Mr. Lloyd propos'd the second time.

Ordered that Dr. Bray & Mr. Shute enquire concerning him.

A Draught of a Letter to be sent with the printed Lists of Preachers to all the Correspondents read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent them.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Hales read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent him.[1]

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[1] To Robert Hales, Esq., at St. Gall, in Swisserland.

Worthy S^r,—The Society for Propagating Xtian Knowledge, having recd an account from one of their own Members of your commendable zeal in Promoting the Glory of Almighty God and the good of souls, before you began your Travels and since your being abroad, as also the Surprizing Relation you have given in your Excellent Letters from St. Gall of the wonderfull successes attending your Labours in Holland, Germany, and Switzerland, in carrying on such Xtian designs, w^ch justly challenges the best acknowledgem^ts of all good Xtians in this and other parts of the Protestant and Reformd Churches, have accordingly orderd me to return you their Hearty Thanks, and at the same time to let you know they have unanimously chosen you a Member of their Body. I am likewise to acquaint you that they have, purely upon yo^r recomendation, Elected the Rev^d Mr. Scherer, the celebrated Minister of St. Gall, into their number, as appears by y^e inclosed Letter, w^ch you are desired to deliver into his own hands, and at the same time to assure him of the just esteem they have conceived for a Person of so conspicuous a Character, and that they will readily hold a Correspondence, not only with himself, but likewise with such other Divines or Laymen as you and he shall think fit to recomend to them^e for Promoting the same good purposes as our and their first Reformers did in Edward the 6^th time, the blessed effects of w^ch remains in all parts of the Reformd Churches unto this day. For we are not unsensible that the Protestant Cantons of Switzerland have upon all occasions expressed a very great affection to this Church and Nation, for so y^t the Society cannot but think themselves very much wanting to y^e true Honour and Interest of both should they decline a Correspondence so advantageous to y^e Protestant Religion as is that w^ch you so judiciously and affectionately recommend to them.

I am further to acquaint you that they have considerd of a List of such of our bookes as they think proper to recomend to be translated into the German and other Languages, and, according to your direction, have sent y^e same to Mr. Olmeus, who, I doubt not, will forward them by the very first opportunity, the List of w^ch Bookes you have hereunto annexed. When they arrive, they only desire they may be put into such hands to be translated as are best able to perform a work of that kind; for it too often happens that many very Excellent Originals do suffer extreamly for want of due care and judgment in y^e Translat^rs and Printers. These are only such Books as they think

Ordered that Munday be the day of meeting for this Society from this time forward.

A Letter read from Dr. Woodward acquainting the Society that there are some hundreds of French Refugees going over into Virginia, and desiring the Society will please to distribute some of the Religious small Tracts in the French Language amongst them.[1]

Ordered that Mr. Hodges do prepare a certain number of small Tracts, not exceeding the value of three pounds, in order to be disperst amongst the said French Protestants.

2 December, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, S^{r} William Hustler, Dr. Bray, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth, S^{r} John Philips, Mr. Lloyd, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Shute.

Mr. Lloyd approv'd of.

Ordered that Dr. Bray desire his Attendance.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. De Beringhen read and approv'd of, and ordered to be sent him.[2]

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fit to send you at present; when any others come out proper to be sent you, they shall be transmitted to you according to such directions as the Society shall from time to time receive from yourself during your stay in those Parts, or from other of your Pious friends upon your return to your native country, which God will in his good time bring about, when you have accomplishd those Noble Designs which he seems to effect by your hands, and for which you are so excellently well qualifyed and disposed. May y^{e} God of all mercy increase and multiply his Grace upon you, and raise up more such burning shining lights in all Parts of the Xtian Church for his greater Glory. These are the constant Prayers of all the Members of this Society, and particularly of,

S^{r},

Yo^{r} most humble Servant,

JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE,
Secretary of the Society.

Dated Petty France, Westminster,
3 *December*, 1700.

[1] In the year 1699, about 300 French religious refugees fled to a village in Virginia called Monacan, where they were supported for some time by William, who seems to have raised money on their behalf by means of some "Charitable Exhibition." Their numbers afterwards increased to seven or eight hundred. A Mr. Byrd is mentioned as having afforded them much help.

[2] TO MR. DEBERINGHEN, AT THE HAGUE, IN HOLLAND.

Hon^{d}. S^{r},—The Members of our Society being now come to Town, they being to sit more closely upon Business than during the vacation (wherein most Persons of note Retire into y^{e} Countrey) they were able to do. And yours to Mr. Hodges of Sept. 17, containing matters of so great moment, you

Mr. Bridges report's that there was near £80 collected at the Doors of St. James's Church yesterday for the use of the Charity Schools.

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will pardon them that they have not took it into Consideration but in a full Society.

The Members command me to let you know that they esteem themselves happy in your Approbation. And as their Design at home is to gain Associations or Societies of y^e^ Clergy and Laity in such a method as the Laws of our Land, the Canons of our Church, and a Late Circular Letter of our Metrapolitan do allow, and when they are so united to perswade them to endevour by a joint consent to begett in each other a steady Resolution of performing their Duties in their respective Parishes, and to Invigorate one another in all the methods of doing Good by setting up Schools, Dispersing good Books, &c., so they apprehend in this they do no more than Revive the Antient Discipline of our Church according to its Primitive Constitution, by w^ch^ it is divided into Bishopricks, subdivided into A. Deaconries, and these again into Smaller Districts called Rural Deaneries, wherein, when the Clergy shall be brought to meet and consent, matt^rs^ of consequence to the Good of Souls and within their proper spheres, and the Inferior Meetings be always accountable to the Superior, and these to their Diocesans. Then, I presume, you will think us as happy as other parts of the Reformd Churches as to their Consistorial Method.

What you say of the Ignorance and Barbarity of y^e^ Irish is certainly too true; but hitherto all means of Instructing those People have provd so ineffectual, that we have little Reason to hope of Success in any Attempts we can make to give them Xtian Knowledge. The Society can only assure you that no Endeavours shall be wanting on their sides, when their Capacity and Interest shall Increase. And it being found that one occasion of the wretched Ignorance of y^t^ Country is y^e^ want of Clergy to fill up all y^e^ Livings of that Kingdom, and y^t^ that proceeds from y^e^ want of another Colledge to prepare persons for the Ministry, so a Noble Member of our Society is founding of a Colledge there, the Plan of w^ch^ is just receivd here.

It is a truly great and Glorious Scheme w^ch^ you have Laid of Forming Comittees like ours in London in all the Protestant States throughout Europe in such a manner that these may Correspond with ours here in London, from whence in time uncomon Effects may Ensue, to the Union, Support, or Comforts of Protestants. And as, till it shall please God to Inspire Protestant Princes and States to favour such a design, one would think, as you say, nothing should hinder in such great Extreamities of the Reformation, Private men from Meeting and Corresponding without noise, so the best way to render our superiors respectively sensible of the advantages of such Councils of Religion as you propose will be hasten, as soon as possible, the Forming of such Comittees, and doing thereby all y^e^ good y^t^ shall be in our Power. And they humbly Recomend it to you to Form such Societies in Holland and Elsewhere. And wherever you shall do it, you may be assured nothing shall be wanting in the Society to Cultivate a Correspondence w^th^ such Persons and in such Places. And they shall be Eager to hear from you of this Matter. The Society have already a Correspondence w^th^ Mr. Frank, and by y^e^ means of Mr. Hales, with Mr. Sherer, Minister of St. Gall, in Switzerland. And, upon the Recomendation of our Learnd Bp. of Worcester with Mr. Turretin, at Geneva, and Mr. Ostervald at Neuf Chattle, and could be glad of such Gentle-

A Draught of a Form for Generall Subscription to Charity Schools read, and recommitted to the same Committee.

Ordered that it be an Instruction to the said Committee that they reduce the said Form into a shorter Compass, and that they incert [*sic*] an Alternative either for an annual Subscription during pleasure or for one only Payment.

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men as these are Represented to be, to Correspond withall, in all the great Cities, both in the States, the Cantons, and throughout the Empire.

The Gentlemen are throughly convinced that you are both able, by your great Knowledge of Men, and your Interest in all Parts, to Recommend to y^m^ proper persons, whose care it shall be, amg^st^ oth^r^ things, to communicate to y^m^ y^e^ present state of our sister Churches of y^e^ Reformacon, and the Machinations of their Enemies ag^st^ them and us, for w^ch^ they will be signally obliged by you.

In truth, there never was greater reason to be nicely inquisitively in those matters than at this Juncture, for if we consider the low ebb to w^ch^ the Protestant Interest is now reduced all over Europe, the Laodicean Coldness, together with the Distraction of the Protestant Powers, especially on the other side the Rhine, and the Extream Bigotry and active Zeal of all the Potentates of the Romis^h^ Faction, however divided in their Secular Interests; and if we add to all this a new Juncture of Interests just now appearing in the world, and so very surprizing, all these Considerations put together Raise the Greatest Concern in the minds of all serious and thinking Persons amongst us. And would you please to Communicate to us your own Reflections upon this subject, it would give us the greatest satisfaction.

It is a Comfortable peice of news w^ch^ you communicate, that there is great Disposition in the People in Flanders to shake off their Abominable Superstitions, and the dispersing of proper Books amongst them with all possible Application, now they are in such a happy Disposition, ought to be done. Our Society is now upon the like methods here, upon the occasion of a late Act of Parliam^t^ to Cure the Nation of the Evil of Popery, to second the Designs of w^ch^ we send to the Papists in several parts of this Kingdom a book of which we will send you a Translation as soon as we can get it ready.

Your Advice concerning the Composing and Dispersing small Pacifick Discourses is what we think very proper for uniting of Differences among Protestants, and we pray God give a happy success to those who shall apply themselves that way, towards w^ch^ we shall contribute our best Endeavours. And truly we have sufficient Reason to desire it this Critical Juncture, when the whole Protestant Cause seems to be attacqu'd by the Common Enemy.

The Society think they cannot conclude this more to your satisfaction than by acquainting you that they have formed their Correspondencys in most of the Counties of this Kingdom, and have already found the happy effects by the Growth of Xtian Knowledge and y^e^ Discouragem^t^ of Vice and Imorality in most places, so that there is a greater spirit of zeal and better face of Religion already visible throughout the Nation.

I am, Hon^d^ S^r^,
Your most humble Servant,
JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.
Secretary of the Society.

Dated Petty France,
Westminster, 3 *December*, 1700.

9 December, 1700.

Present: S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Dr. Kennett, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Col. Colchester, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Keith, a Correspondent, Lord Guilford, Mr. Reynolds (Mr. Parker, Mr. Davies, Correspondents), the Dean of Chichester, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, S[r] William Hustler, Mr. Barklay, a Correspondent.

A Letter [Abs. 212] read from Mr. Drake, of Exeter, recommending Dr. Osmond for a Lay Correspondent for that City.

Ordered that Dr. Osmond be the Lay Correspondent for Exeter.

Mr. Brewster reported from the Com[tee] appointed to consider of Mr. Frank's Letter that they had considered of the Qualifications of a Clerk, and had come to severall Resolutions thereupon, w[ch] he delivered in writing, and w[ch], being read, were approv'd of with an Amendment.[1]

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[1] 9 *Dec.* 1700.

THE REPORT OF THE COMITTEE TO WHOM THE BUSINESS OF THE CLERK WAS REFERD.

THAT, considering the variety of Business (which, according to the Hints which our worthy Member, Mr. Frank, has so Judiciously given us) a Clerk of this Society must undergo, we are of Opinion that he ought to be qualifyed as follow's :—

I. Upon the whole of Mr. Frank's Letter, it appearing to us that there must be many Letters written to Correspondents of different Apprehensions and different Capacities, to answer the Purposes of the Society, with what Letters are necessary to be written with respect to such persons and Businesses, he must so study the Affairs and Designs of the Society as to Suggest at any time what is proper to be written or done, *Pro re nata.*

II. Considering the different matters containd in our Books, and with reference to w[ch] our Letters must be written, it would very much Conduce to the Ease of the Society and Dispatch of business that the Clerk should be able to Collect under proper heads, in way of Commonplace, the several Minutes and matters containd in our Books.

III. Considering the multitude of Letters w[ch] the Society must send to their Correspondents, and how difficult it is, by reason of Distance and the particular affairs of each Member, to get a Committee together to draw up all such Letters as must be sent, or we shall lose our Correspondents, it will be requisite that y[e] Clark should be able of himself to prepare Letters to be Laid before the Comittee or Society for their Perusal.

IV. The designs w[ch] this Society pursue being highly Religious, and it being Impossible that any Person should write appositely and home to matters that he is not Cordially affected to, it is requisite that he be throughly pious and in Love with the work that he is Employd about.

V. It being greatly to the Honour of the Society that persons Employd under it should be of good Capacities and Abiliteis, especially it appearing from the Premises that so much is to be Entrusted to a Clerk, it is requisite

Ordered that Dr. Kennett and Mr. Chamberlayne do offerr to Mr. Humphrey Wanley, in the name of the Society, the place of Assistant to the Secretary, together with a Sallary of £40 per annum for the same.

Mr. Bridges report's that the Subscriptions to the School in Clerkenwell amount to £70.

Ordered that Mr. Hunt, Vicar of Gosport, in Hampshire, be an additionall Correspondent for that County.

Mr. Gardner report's that the Subscriptions in St. Sepulchers Parish amount to £75, and that they are going to open the School there.

Mr. Davies, the Correspondent for Flintshire, offer'd a Proposal in writing relating to the Dispersing of Books agst Popery & amongst the meaner sort of Papists in that County.

The s^{d} Proposall being read, it is ordered that one Dozen and a half of the Books call'd an Address to those of the Romish Communion be deliver'd at the Charges of the Society to Mr. Davies, in order to be convey'd to the Clergy of Flintshire, and to be by them sent to such persons as they think fitt.

16 December, 1700.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Serjeant Hook, Dr. Bray, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. King, Mr. Clerk, Col. Colchester, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Barklay, a Correspondent, Lord Guilford, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Slare, Mr. Gordon, a Correspondent, Mr. Seaman.

Ordered that Mr. Gordon be the Correspondent for the Navy.

Mr. Barklay's Proposall relating to the Promoting Christian Knowledge amongst the Indian & Barbarous, read.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Barklay for his zeal in that matter.

Order'd that the said Paper be referred to a Committee. And Dr. Kennett, Dr. Bray, Mr. Lloyd, Serjeant Hook, Mr. Clerk, Col. Colchester, and Mr. Hodges were appointed to be the Committee, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's at 2 in the Afternoon next Munday.

Ordered that Mr. Ludolf[1] be a Correspondent Member.

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he be a Person of good Learning, and if such an one can be gott, that he be able, upon occasion, to form a Letter in good proper Latin.

VI. It being of great consequence y^{t} the Measures and Proceedings of this Society should be managed wth due Secrecy, we think it necessary he should be a Person of great Prudence and Fidelity.

VII. Being it Contributes to the Ease and Pleasure of Reading Letters, as well as to the Credit of the Society, that our Letters should be written in a good Hand, it is requisite that he be accordingly Qualifyed in y^{t} Respect.

VIII. That he be a Member of y^{e} Church of England.

[1] H. W. Ludolf, born at Erfurt, 1655. Became secretary to Prince George of Denmark, who married Queen Anne; died 1710. Author of the "True and Only Way to Union among Christians."

Ordered that his Proposals be read at next meeting.

Dr. Kennett reported that he had been with Mr. Wanley, and offer'd him a Sallary of £40 per annum, with the Title of Assistant to the Secretary, and that he thankfully accepted the same.

Ordered that Mr. Wanley attend the next time.

Ordered that the Clerk be discharged from the Service of the Society at Christmas, and that he be presented with the summe of five pounds as a Free Gift from the Society.

A Letter [Abs. 215] read from Mr. Tod, Minister of St. Thomas in the Vale, in Jamaica.

Ordered that Mr. Tod be the Correspondent for that part of Jamaica.

Ordered that Dr. Stanhope be an additional Correspondent for Kent.

A Letter [Abs. 216] read from Commissary Bennett, of Jamaica, with the Resolutions of the Clergy of that Island, read & committed to the afores^d^ Com^tee^.

Ordered that S^r^ Wm. Beeson be the Lay Correspondent for Jamaica.

Order'd that th' aforesaid Committee prepare a Letter to be sent him.

A Letter [Abs. 218] from Mr. Deffray recommending Mr. Baker, of N. Rumney, to be the Lay Correspondent for Kent.

Order'd that Mr. Baker be the Lay Correspondent for that County.

A Letter [Abs. 219] read from Mr. Drake, of Exeter, acquainting the Society that Dr. Osmond had given £5 tow^ds^ the Plantations.

Ordered that the Secretary return him the Thanks of the Society for the s^d^ Benefaction.

A Letter [Abs. 221] read from Mr. Fenwick, the Correspondent of Leicestershire, promising £2 per annum towards the Designs of the Society.

Ordered that the Secretary return him the Thanks of the Society for the s^d^ Benefaction.

23 December, 1700.

Present: Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. King, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Clerk, Col. Colchester, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Gordon & Mr. Ludolph, Correspondents, Dr. Kennett, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, S^r^ William Hustler, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Bulstrode.

Mr. Ludolf attending, his Proposals relating to the Propagating Christian Knowledge amongst the Orientall Churches[1] were again read, and committed to all the Divines of this Society, and Mr. Ludolf was joyned to them.

Order'd that the said Committee meet here this day seavennight at 2 of the Clock.

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[1] For further efforts to influence the Eastern Churches, see next meeting, and those of March 10 and March 17, 1700-01.

Ordered that the Report from the s^d^ Com^tee^ be the first Business of next meeting.

Mr. Bridges report's that about £20 per annum is subscribed in Aldersgate, that the School in St. Sepulcher's will soon be opened, near £100 per annum being subscribed, and that near £130 is subscribed in St. Andrews, Holbourn.

S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth reported that he was yesterday at the School at Aldgate, govern'd by Mr. Symms, where he saw and heard the Boys excercis'd in Spelling, Reading, Catechising, and Singing, all which they perform'd very laudably and to his great satisfaction.

Mr. Michell report's that there were two Lecture Sermons preach'd at St. Ann's, Westm^r^, yesterday upon the Subject of Encouraging Charity Schools, in w^ch^ day was collected the summe of 56 pounds towards the same pious use.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to meet on Friday at 3 of the Clock to consider of Mr. Gordon's Proposalls for Christian Instruction of Seamen, and that Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, Mr. King, Mr. Serjeant Hook, and Mr. Shute, who are to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, be of the same Committee.

Mr. Serjeant Hook report's that he ha's received from Mr. Francis Bulkeley of Anglesey the summe of five pounds for promoting Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.

Ordered that the accompts of the Society be audited on Friday next by the Committee appointed to consider of Mr. Gourdon's Proposalls.

Order'd that 500 copies of the Book entituled Prayers for Prisoners under the Sentence of Death be printed at the Charges of this Society, and that Mr. Shute be appointed to see it done.

A Draught of a Letter to Mr. Bennett, Commissary of Jamaica, was read, approv'd of, & ordered to be sent.[1]

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[1] To the Revd. Mr. Bennet, Comissary to the Ld. Bishop of London for the Island of Jamaica.

Rev^d^ S^r^,—We have had the satisfaction of yo^rs^ from Port Royal Octob. 12, and we agree to acknowledg that it is a great encouragem^t^ to our Designs to find you so ready to assist and promote them in those parts of the World where Providence has sent you for the Care and the Interest of y^e^ Christian Church. We have reason to approve those three Resolutions w^ch^ you and yo^r^ Clergy have already made and communicated to us. We look upon the first attempt of yours as a foundation highly laid, and we beg God's blessing on your zeal and wisdom to carry on the good work, and bring it nearer to perfection. We have written to your worthy Governour, to thank him for the Countenance he has already given, and to beg his favour and Protection to all such Persons within his Government as shall join in these good Endeavours, wherein we propose no other End than the Glory of God and the Interest of Religion.

As to what relates to Libraries or Books, Dr. Bray will give you the best satisfaction under his own Hand. We are only Present [blank here] to assure you that from time to time we shall be very glad to hear of your Proceedings in such an honourable Cause, and shall not fail to give you the best advises and

An account of a Religious Society at Lid, near Romney, sent by Mr. Deffray to this Society, was order'd to be read at the next meeting.

Mr. King report's that there are severall Benefactions given to the Plantations by the persons following, viz. :—

Col. Arscott, of Devonshire, tenn pounds.
Col. Quick, of Devonshire, five pounds.
Mr. Stafford, of Devonshire, three pounds fourteen and six pence.
Mr. Eckins, merchant, of Exeter, five pounds.

30 December, 1700.

Present: Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Mecken, Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Ludolf, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Willis, Mr. Brewster, S[r] William Hustler, Mr. Seaman, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Gibson, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. Clark, Mr. Parker, a Lay Correspondent, and Lord Guilford.

Dr. Bray reported from the Committee that they had heard Mr. Ludolf's Proposalls read,[1] upon w[ch] they order'd 17 Catechisms to be

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Assistance that we are able to offer. And we shall take the same Liberty as occasions serve to send you some account of our Proceedings, and will be as ready to accept any Intimations from you that can suggest any better ways or means how to propagate Xtian Knowledge, and help forward the conversion of Sinners and the salvation of mankind. I am,

Reverend Sir,
Your most humble Servant,
JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

Dated Petty France,
Westminster, 25 *Decemb.* 1700.

By Order of the Society.

[1] MR. WILHELM HENRY LUDOLF'S PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE INSTRUCTION OF THE GREEK CHRISTIANS.

23 *Decb.* 1700.

WHOSOEVER hath a hearty concern for the Interest of Christ's Church, whereof it is his happiness to be a living Member, cannot chuse but thank God for inlivening w[th] Xtian Zeal those pious Souls w[ch] have joynd into a Society for promoting of Christian Knowlege. It will render the Church of England more glorious if those y[t] are of it do not only promote real Xtianity amongst themselves, but influence even other Churches, by Example and by a helping hand towards answering the glorious ends of the Gospel.

Those correspondencys w[ch] are establishing w[th] good men amongst the rest of Protestants will make them partakers of what favours God shews to his Church here, and incourage their Endeavours to bring their Church likewise to a little more Spiritual Lustre. If we made it our business y[t] our

delivered to him, and they farther referr'd it to him to make such extractions from them as he should judge would be most acceptable

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light might even dart some rays into y^e^ darkness of the Oriental Church, our Charity would have y^e^ larger a sphere, and bespeak the more praise to y^e^ great Author of all good and perfect gifts, who is most serv'd by those who is most instrumentall in y^e^ conveying of his mercys unto others.

I have therefore thought fitt to lay before the above-mentiond honble. Society y^e^ following Proposals :—

(I.) As the main business will be to obtain the esteem and love of the Oriental Church, so great care ought to be taken of sending such paterns of Xtian Vertue amongst them as will by their Example and Conduct, full of meekness and prudence, render their Conversation y^e^ more acceptable and y^e^ more powerfull; but as it is requisite they should know the language of those nations, so it would be necessary

(II.) To inure those that are going thither to some skill in the Eastern Languages, and upon this account it would be expedient to have a Seminary, out of w^ch^ those might be chosen w^ch^ his Lordp. the Bishop of London recomends for serving as Chapplains in the Factories w^ch^ y^e^ honble. Levant Company hath in Turkey. In this Seminary they might accustome themselves to the vulgar Greek, at least, if not also unto Arabick or Turkish. The vulgar Greek will be easy to those that have the book Greek, and pronouncing the book Greek as the Grecians do nowadays facilitates the citing a passage out of the New Testament to them ; besides that, it hath been observed to be a Tacita Captatio benevolentiæ with them, if one pronounced the book Greek as they do. If such a Seminary cannot be compassed, at least every one that is to go as Chaplain into Turkey ought to instruct himself, before he sets out, in y^e^ ways and methods of being serviceable, not only to y^e^ gentlemen of y^e^ Factory, but likewise to the scattering some good seed amongst y^e^ Poor Levantines.

(III.) But the greatest Service might be done in this point if the Project of a Seminary for Youths of the Oriental Church was closely pursued and rightly managed. For as long as the Form of Worship withholding of certain tenets is generally mistaken for Xtian Religion itself, it must follow, of course, that every particular Church will ingress Heaven w^th^ its treasures to herself, and consequently no man be able to do much good out of his own Church. Now, if some Youths of the Oriental Church were trained up to a fundamental knowledge and sincere practice of Evangelical truths, they might more easily propagate them amongst their brethren than any of us can do. Which truths, well digested in the Soul, would of themselves discover unto them y^e^ Emptiness of their Divine Worship.

(IV.) If the abovesaid honble. Society chose a Comittee of about seven persons to make the Oriental Church their particular care, this Comittee might lay out for Correspondence with some eminent, well-disposed men of the Oriental Church, give directions to those y^t^ go as Chaplains, or w^th^ other Xtian resolutions into y^e^ Levant, and study to find out ways for incouraging ingenious Orientalists to come amongst us, and how to send them back rightly instructed for furthering the work of the Lord amongst their Brethren.

(V.) A small Scriptural Chatechism, where y^e^ Idea of Christianity is laid down only by passages of the Bible dispersed amongst them, might do good to a great many Souls, and would be liable to less exception than books of our Church. The Comon Prayer-book, printed in Arabik at Oxford, and dis-

to the Orientall Christians, and likely to enlarge their Christian Knowledge.

Ordered that Mr. Barklay's Proposall be recommitted to the former Committee, and they to meet at Mr. Serjeant Hook's next Munday at 12 o'Clock.

Dr. Bray reported that he had received £5, the Gift of Mr. Wynne, of Carnarvon, towards the Plantations.

Order'd that the Secretary return him the thanks of the Society.

The Thanks of the Society was returned to Dr. Willis for promoting the Collections for a Charity School by his Sermon preach'd at St. Ann's Westminster.

Dr. Bray reported from the Committee that they had heard Mr. Gordon's Proposalls read, w^ch^, in the main, were approved, and that they had referr'd it to the said Mr. Gordon to make some Additions and Emendations, and to answer some Objections, and afterwards to attend the Society with the same.

Vid. infra, 13 & 20 Ian., *vid.* 27 ditto, & 3 Febr.

Order'd that Mr. Gordon's Proposalls be enquired after and communicated to the Society as soon as possible.

Ordered that the Secretary return the Thanks of the Society to Mr. Bulkeley, Col. Arscott, Col. Quick, Mr. Stafford, and Mr. Eckins, for their late Benefactions.

Mr. Serj^t^ Hook reported from the Committee that they had made some Progress in stating the accounts of the Society, and he moved that he might meet at his House next Saturday at 3 o'clock, in order to finish them, w^ch^ was ordered accordingly.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do consider of a proper method for the Regular Keeping the acc^ts^ of the Society, and that he lay a Specimen thereof, viz^t^. of the moneys received and of the moneys layd out, before the last-mentioned Committee.

Ordered that the Agents for Schools be desired to bring into the Society with all convenient speed a List containing the number of Charity Schools in and ab^t^ London and Westminster, the places where they are kept, the respective summs subscrib'd for their maintenance,

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tributed in the Levant, did not meet w^th^ so kind a reception there as could be wished, since, for the reasons above mentioned, every particular Church makes a point of conscience and honour of it not to stoop to another. For want of small books to teach y^e^ Boys, the poor Schoolmasters are forced in y^e^ Levant to write down what the boys are to learn to read. So y^t^ printing y^e^ elements of the Christian Religion and dispersing them there with a preface of a word or two, that some Christian Souls here had done this out of Charity to their brethren of the Greek Church might in time produce some good effect. Such a conviction of our Loving them might bespeak their Love towards us, and facilitate our working good upon them, Love being the Smoothest and Surest inlets into other people's minds. God help us all to an experimentall knowledge of that Divine Truth !

Θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν, καὶ ὁ μένων ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ, ἐν Θεῷ μένει, καὶ Θεὸς ἐν αὐτῷ, *i.e.*, God is Love, and he that abideth in Love, abideth in God, and God in him.

the names of the Schoolmasters and Schoolmistresses, the number of the Boys and Girls taught in each School, how many of each have been cloathed, and how many of each have been put out Apprentices.

Ordered that it be an Instruction to the Agents of Schools that they make it their endeavour that the Children be brought to Church at least 4 times a year, in order to be publickly examined by their respective Ministers, and that the severall Members of the Society be desired to promote the same as occasion serve's.

Ordered that Mr. Deffray's acc^{t} of a Religious Society at Lid, near Rumney, be read at the next meeting.

Ordered that for the future the Secretary (upon the Receipt of each Letter from any Correspondent of the Society) do make an Abstract from it, and that the Abstract be read to the Society immediately after reading of the Letter it was taken from.

[*See* Abstracts of Correspond. at end.]

A Letter from Mr. Griffith [Abs. Cor. 224], a Correspondent for Barkshire, whereunto was added the Form of Association of some Clergymen of that County was read.

Ordered that the s^{d} Form of Association be entered at length amongst the Abstracts of Letters.

A Letter read from Mr. Frank [Abs. Cor. 225], of Bedfordshire, mentioning that Mr. Ellis, of Genalston, recommended Mr. Will: Parson, Arch Deacon of Nottingham, as a Corespondent.

A letter read from Mr. Bedford [Abs. Cor. 226], Correspondent for Bristol, recommending S^{r} John Duddlestone for a Lay Correspondent.

Ordered that S^{r} John Duddlestone be a Lay Correspondent for Bristol.

Munday, January 6, 1700-1.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hodges, S^{r} Richard Bulkeley, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. Mecken, & Dr. Bray.

Mr. Serjeant Hook reported that there is £23 subscribed towards a School at Twickenham.

Ordered that Mr. Bridges be desired to know thither to discourse Dr. Williams, the Minister of that place, about the setting up the said School.

Mr. Bridges reported that there was £15. 16s. gather'd at Trinity Chappell in order to sett up a School for Girls in St. Martin's Parish.

Mr. Bridges acquainted the Society how heavy the business of Schools has layn upon the Agents, and moved that the Society would find out some way of easing them.

Ordered that there be an Assistant allow'd them.

Ordered that the Sallary of the s^{d} Assistant be consider'd of at a ull meeting.

A Letter from Mr. De Fray [Deffray], Minister of New Romney, con-

cerning a Religious Society at Romney, together with the Prayers and Orders of the said Society, was read.

Ordered that the said Letter, &c., be referred to the consideration of Dr. Woodward.

The Lord Guilford propos'd Mr. Cotton of New Castle under Line the first time.

Ordered that Mr. Barklay's Proposall be referred to Dr. Kennett, who is desired to amend and fitt it for the Press. *Vid infra*, 20 Jan.

Ordered that the Committee for receiving the Acc^ts^ of the Society do meet at Serjeant Hook's to-morrow at 4 o'Clock, and that Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Harvey, and Mr. Chamberlayne be added to that Committee.

A Letter from Mr. Fenwick [Abs. Cor. 228], the Correspondent for Leicestershire, recommending a Sermon of his to be printed, was read.

Ordered that Mr. Shute do peruse the said Sermon, and make his Report at the next meeting.

A Draught of a Letter to S^r^ W^m^ Beeston, Governor of Jamaica, was read and approv'd of, with some Amendments, and ordered to be sent him.[1]

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[1] A Letter to Sr Wm. Beeston, Governor of Jamaica (Drawn up by Dr. Bray).

May it please your Excellency.

That Inundation of Profaness and Immorality which we find of late broke in upon us, put's all serious Persons here, into no small Consternation, at the Prospect of those Judgements, which according to the Ordinary Course of Divine Providence, overtake an Apostatiz'd People. And to retrive in some Measure the Genius of the English Nation, which heretofore ha's been ever Fam'd for it's Seriousness and Regard to God and Religion : several Eminent Persons as well Lords as Commons ; and amongst both, as well Laymen as Divines, have Resolved to meet together once a week to Assist one another in all proper Methods to promote so great a good. And what those Methods are, we refer your Excellency for Satisfaction to the Printed Papers herewith sent you.

That the Society do Address your Excellency to joyn your self to these worthy Gentlemen to such excellent Purposes, is not only from that Noble Post you are in, and that as a Governor of so large a Province, you are in a Capacity to Assist and Extend their Designs to the greatest Advantage : but from the Encouragement which they Conceive from the Character that is given of you ; and particularly from what the Reverend M^r^ Commissary Bennett acquaint's us by his Letter of Octob. 12. how generously you have already contributed towards the Buying necessary Books to be distributed among the People.

I am to assure your Excellency that the Report of your Concurrence in the Measures which we have taken to do so much good, does wonderfully Rejoice the Hearts of all the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. And as they are very desirous to have you join your self to their number as the Governor of Virginia has already done. So I am to Assure you, that all your

13 January, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Mecken, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. King, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Ludolf, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. Serjeant Hook, S^r^ Richard Bulkeley, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Bulstrode, S^r^ William Hustler, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Parker, Lay Correspondents.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do enquire after Mr. Gordon's Proposals.

Mr. Shute reported that the Secretary's Assistant had layd before the Committee a method for keeping the Accounts of the Society, which was approv'd of.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do buy a Book, and Register therein the Accounts of the Society accordingly.

Mr. Bridges report's that the Agents of Schools had made some Progress towards the Compleating the Scheme relating to Schools, and that they should finish the same in a week or fortnight.

Ordered that there be a Committee of all the Divines of this Society appointed to inspect the severall Orders of the Religious Societies, in order to answer y^e^ objections raised against them, which Orders will be laid before the Committee by the Agents of Schools at the Request of the said Societies.

Ordered that the said Committee do meet the next Thursday come se'night at 3 o'Clock, at Mr. Brewster's Chambers.

Ordered that the Secretarie's Assistant do give timely notice thereof to the absent Clergymen of this Society.

Mr. Michell report's that the School at St. Clement's Danes was open'd this day.

Also that there were two Sermons preach'd yesterday at S^t^ Margarett's, Westm^r^, by S^r^ William Daws and Mr. Naggs, upon the subject of Charity Schools, and that there was £36 collected there the same day.

Mr. Gardner report's that the School at S^t^ Sepulcher's will be open'd on Wednesday next, the Subscription thereunto being upwards of one hundred pounds.

Mr. Skeat report's that the School for Girls in East Smithfield, in the Parish of Aldgate, was open'd this day, above forty pounds being subscrib'd thereunto.

Also that there are 3 Schools lately open'd at Wimbleton, two for

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Commands thereto Relating shall be readily complied with by them. And to signify this to You from the Society, is what I am Order'd to do, who am

Sir,

Your Excellencies

most Obedient Servant

JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

January 7.
1700–1.

Girls and one for Boys, erected by twenty Gentlemen, who have each subscrib'd four pounds a piece for tenn years.

Resolv'd that the Reverend Mr. Coghan be the Inspector of all the Charity Schools in and about London and Westm^r.

Resolved that his Sallary be £20 per annum.

Mr. Cotton propos'd the second time.

Ordered that Mr. Lloyd and Captain Parker do enquire concerning him.

A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Bedford [Abs. Cor. 229], Correspondent for Bristol.

Ordered that the said Letter be considered at next meeting.

20 January, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Ludolf, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. Torriano, Dr. Slare, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Mason, a Correspondent, Dr. Willis, S^r W^m Hustler, Mr. King, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Melmouth.

Mr. Cotton approv'd of, and Mr. Lloyd to desire him to attend.

Ordered that Mr. Masson be a Corresponding Member.

Dr. Bray propos'd the Lord Bishop of Worcester[1] the first time.

A Letter read from S^r Thomas Pope Blount[2] to Mr. Chamberlayne relating to the School at Twickenham, whereunto almost £40 a year is already subscribed.

Mr. Hodges report's that Dr. Woodward ha's perused and corrected Mr. Deffray's account of a Religious Society.

Ordered that the said account be fairly transcribed and referred to the Committee of Divines that are to meet next Thursday about the Business of the Religious Societys.

Ordered that Mr. Barclay's Proposall do remain with Dr. Kennett till further order.

Ordered that Mr. Gourdon's Proposall be recommitted to Dr. Willis.

Mr. Skeate report's that at Aldgate the Vestry have made an Order to take in twenty Boys more into Mr. Symm's School, and to allow him £20 per annum.

A debate arising about an Assistant to the Agents of Schools, it was adjourned to the next meeting.

Vid. Mr. Cogan, *vid. supra*, 13 Jan., & *infra* 27 Ditto.

Ordered that it be referred to the Gentlemen of the Society, who

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[1] William Lloyd, D.D., born 1627; Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 1676; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1680; translated to Worcester, 1699. Author of numerous works.

[2] Son of Sir H. Blount, and brother of Charles Blount, the Deistical writer.

are to meet next Friday at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, to propose the Lord Bishop of Worcester the second time.

Mr. Bedford's Letter appearing very considerable,

Ordered that it be the first thing consider'd at the next meeting, and nothing to intervene.

The English Translation of a French Letter from Mr. De Beringhen [Abs. Cor. 230] read.

Ordered that the Secretary do write him a short answer (of thanks).

A Letter read from S^r^ John Dudleston [Abs. Cor. 231], who accepts the Correspondence.

Ordered that there be a Committee appointed to draw up a second Letter to the Lay Correspondents.

Ordered that henceforward the Secretary or his Assistant draw up an answer to such Letters of less moment w^ch^ they shall receive, and that these answers be read to the Society at the same time with the Letters themselves.

A Letter read from Mr. Drake, of Exeter [Abs. Cor. 234.], shewing that he had sent six guineas towards the Plantations.

Ordered that Mr. King do return him the thanks of the Society for the same.

Ordered that Mr. Ostervald[1] be the Correspondent for New Chastell, in Switzerland.

Thursday, 23 January, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Woodward, a Correspondent, Dr. Willis, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster.

Dr. Bray propos'd the Lord Bishop of Worcester the second time.

Ordered that Dr. Bray & Mr. Shute do enquire concerning him.

27 January, 1700-1.

Present: The Lord Guilford, Dr. Evans, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. King, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. George Keith, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Col. Colchester, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Hoblin, a Corresponding Member, S^r^ William Hustler, Dr. Willis, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Parker, a Correspondent, Mr. Gibson, a Correspondent, the Lord Bishop of Worcester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Seaman (S^r^ Richard Bulkeley, Mr. Masson, Correspondents), Dr. Slare, Mr. Cotton.

The Lord [Bp.] of Worcester approv'd of, and Mr. Lloyd to desire his attendance.

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[1] John Frederick Osterwald, a celebrated Protestant divine, born at Neufchatel, 1663; died 1747. Author of Abridgement of the History of the Bible, &c.

Order'd that Mr. Hoblin be a Corresponding Member for St. Columb, in Cornwall (being proposed by Mr. Shute).

Mr. Hodges propos'd Mr. John Trimmer of Wimbledon the first time.

Mr. Torriano presented five pounds to the Society from a Gentleman who desires to be unknown.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be returned him by Mr. Torriano.

Mr. Nelson propos'd S^r^ Richd. Blackmore the first time.

Ordered that the Secretary, his Assistant, &c., do inspect the Journall in order to perfect the same.

Mr. Bedford's Letter being again read,

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do transcribe it, and do wait on the Lord Bishop of Worcester with the Copy, w^ch^ his Lordship promise's to communicate to his Grace the Lord Bishop of Canterbury.

Ordered that Mr. Hughes, of Langhern, and Mr. John Philips, of Carmarthen, be Lay Correspondent Members, the former for the County, the latter for the Town of Carmarthen.

Ordered that the Pacquett of Books be delivered to Mr. Hughes, as is usuall to Correspondents.

Ordered that the latter part of Mr. Bedford's Letter relating to the Clergy of Wales be again considered after that the Lord Bishop of Bangor and S^r^ John Phillips are come to Town.

Dr. Willis reported from the Com^tee^ appointed to inspect the Orders of the Religious Societies that they had made some Progress in the matter to y^m^ referred; and he moved that they might meet again at the same time and place the next Thursday come seven-night, w^ch^ was granted.

Dr. Willis reported from the same Committee that they had perused the new Copy of Mr. Deffray's acc^t^ of the Religious Societys at Romney, and that they had directed Dr. Kennett to draw up a Letter of Thanks to the said Mr. Deffray upon acc^t^ of his pious Intentions therein.

Dr. Willis reported that he believe's Mr. Gourdon's Proposalls to be impracticable.

Ordered that the consideration of the Reformation of Seamen be referred to the Com^tee^ of Divines who are to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers.

Ordered that the consideration of choosing an Assistant to the Agents of Schools be adjourn'd to the next meeting, and that the Agents be desired to attend.

February 3, 1700-1.

Present: S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ William Hustler, S^r^ Richard Bulkeley, Dr. Slare, Col. Colchester, Dr. Woodward, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Gibson, a Lay Corre-

spondent, Mr. Clark, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Parker, a Lay Correspondent, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Masson, a Correspondent, Dr. Evans, Dr. Willis, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Brewster.

Ordered that it be referred to the Committee who are to meet the next Thursday at Mr. Brewster's, to draw up a Second Letter to the Lay Correspondents, and that as many of the Society as can attend there are desired so to do.

Ordered that the s^d^ Com^tee^ do draw up a Letter to be sent to Mr. Osterwald.

Mr. Trymmer propos'd the second time.

Ordered that Mr. Shute and Dr. Woodward do enquire concerning him.

S^r^ Richard Blackmore proposed the second time.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do wait on the Lord Bishop of Worcester with the orders of the Society.

Dr. Slare report's that Mr. Hughes and Mr. Philips have accepted the Correspondence.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do deliver Mr. Gourdon's Proposalls to his Bookseller.

Mr. Bridges report's that a School for 20 Girls, cloathed at St. Martins in the Fields, will be opened to-morrow.

Ordered that the Treasurer do pay to the Agents 5 pounds upon the acc^t^ of the School at St. George's, in Southwark.

Ordered that twenty pounds a year (to be p^d^ quarterly) be paid to the Agents, by them to be dispos'd of for the Encouragement of the Charity Schools according to their discretion, the first paym^t^ to be made at Lady-day next. *Vid. supra*, ab^t^ Mr. Coghan, 13 & 27 Jan.

Ordered that it be referred to the Committee, who are to meet the next Thursday at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, to draw up Answers to the Letters lately receiv'd from Mr. Frank, Mr. Scherer, and Mr. Hales.

February 10, 1700-1.

Present: The Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bromfield, Col. Colchester, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. George Keith, a Correspondent, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Masson, a Correspondent, S^r^ Rich^d^ Bulkeley, a Correspondent, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Trimmer, Dr. Evans, the Lord Guilford, Dr. Willis, Mr. Lloyd.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Vincent Edwards be the Correspondent for Alnwick, in Northumberland.

A Letter read from Mr. Ellis [A. C. 235], of Gonalston.

A Letter read from Dr. Stanhope [A. C. 236].

A Letter read from Mr. Taylor, of Wigan [A. C. 238], with an Essay upon Mr. George Herbert's Church Porch,

Ordered that it be committed to Mr. Shute, and he to make his Report at next meeting.

Mr. Trymmer approv'd of, and Mr. Hodges to desire him to attend.

S^r Richard Blackmore approv'd of.

The English Translation of a Latin Letter read from Mr. Scherer [A. C. 240], of St. Gall, in Switzerland.

The English Translation of a Latin Letter read from Dr. Frank [A. C. 241] of Hall, in Saxony.

A Letter read from Mr. Adamson, of Burton [A. C. 242], relating to the Society of Clergymen and others in Lincolnshire, together with the Orders of the said Society.

Ordered that the said Letter and Orders be referred to a Com^tee to meet at Mr. Brewsters Chambers next Thursday at 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, and that Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Dr. Willis, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, S^r Rich^d Bulkely S^r Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester be that Com^tee.

A Letter read from Mr. Arch Deacon [Mr.] Willett [A. C. 243].

A Letter read from Mr. Theophilus Dorrington [A. C. 244].

Mr. Lloyd reported from the Committee that they had appointed Dr. Bray to write to Mr. Hales, Mr. Masson to Mr. Ostervald, Mr. Ludolf to Dr. Frank, and Mr. Chamberlayne to Mr. Scherer, and that Dr. Willis should draw up a second Letter to the Lay Correspondents.

Dr. Willis read his Draught of a second Letter to the Lay Correspondents, w^ch was approved of.[1]

Mr. Masson's Letter to Mr. D'Ostervald was read & approv'd.

Dr. Bray reported that he had begunn his Letter to Mr. Hales, w^ch he would finish ag^st next meeting.

Ordered that a parcel of every sort of Books w^ch is dispersed by the Society be lodged from time to time with the Treasurer.

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[1] The Second Circular Letter to the Lay Correspondents

(Drawn up by Dr. Willis).

This may also be sent to the Clergy Correspondents as occasion serves.

Honor'd Sir,

This is to beg your Pardon for our long Silence; which we assure you did not proceed from any want of Respect, but merely from the great Variety of business, and the large Correspondence both at Home and Abroad, in which we are engag'd. Upon which accounts we hope that your Self and our other Correspondents will excuse our not writing so often as we should otherwise be glad to do. We are still going on in the same Designs and Methods, of which we gave you an account before, and blessed be God, our Success doe's continue to be above our Expectations. It would be a great Pleasure to the Society to hear how you succeed in the Countrey. We do therefore beg the favor that you would be pleas'd as often as anything material happen's, and it may stand with your Convenience, to let us know of it. For which we promise you at least this Return, that we shall heartily pray to God for your good success, and be ready to give our Assistance in any thing that shall be in our power.

Resolved that the Society will Ensure to the Agents of Schools the sum of five pounds towards setting up the School at St. Catherine's for one year in case the Subscriptions do not amount to it.

Order'd that these Letters w^ch^ yet remain to be read to the Society be the first business dispatch'd at next meeting, & nothing to intervene.

Resolv'd that a thousand Copies of the Papers ag^t^ profane Swearing,[1] of the Perswasive towards the observation of the Lord's day, and of the Vindication of Informers be lodged with the Treasurer for th' use of the Agents of Schools.

The Secretary's Assistant reported that the Secretary and he had begunn to inspect the Journall, and that they would finish the same with all convenient speed.

17 February, 1700-1.

Present: The Lord Bishop of Worcester, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chandler, & Mr. Masson, Correspondents, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Justice Hook, Mr. Ludolf, a Lay Correspondent, Mr. George Keith, a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Arch Deacon Yeates, a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Dr. Willis, Mr. Bromfield, S^r^ William Hustler, S^r^ Rich^d^ Bulkeley.

The Lord Bishop of Worcester reported that he had shewn the Copy of the former part of Mr. Bedford's Letter to his Grace the Lord Bishop of Canterbury, who said he would talk with the Lord Bishop of Bristol upon the matters therein contained.

Ordered that Mr. Lloyd do conferr with the Lord Bishop of Bangor and S^r^ John Philips upon the Subject-matter contain'd in the latter part of Mr. Bedford's Letter.

Ordered that Dr. Kennett be reminded of the Letter he is appointed to write to Mr. Defray.

Ordered that Mr. Taylor of Wigan's Paper be further considered.

Col. Colchester reported from the Committee that they had appointed Mr. Chandler to draw up an answer to Mr. Adamson of Burton, which Answer being produc'd by Mr. Chandler was read, and with some amendments approv'd.[2]

Col. Colchester likewise reported that it was the opinion of the

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[1] "A Kind Caution to Profane Swearers," by Josiah Woodward, D.D.

"An Earnest Perswasive to the Serious Observation of the Lord's Day," by the same Author.

"A Letter from a Minister to his Parishioners, shewing the Indispensable Duty incumbent upon all Persons to give Information to the Magistrate as well against Prophane Swearing and Cursing as against other Crimes and Misdemeanours."

[2] A copy of this letter is not forthcoming.

Committee that if a convenient number of the Books call'd the Seaman's Monitor,[1] and of the Papers against Profane Swearers, and the Perswasive towards the observation of the Lord's day, were dispersed amongst the Seamen, it would much conduce towards the Christian Instruction and Reformation.

Ordered that one thousand copies of each of the said Books be bought and dispersed accordingly.

Dr. Bray's answer to Mr. Hales [for Mr. Hales' letter *see* A. C. 239, the answer is not forthcoming] read, and with an amendment approved, & ordered to be sent.

Memorand. upon the Receipt of a Letter from Mr. Hales, the s^d^ Answer was referr'd to Dr. Kennett. *Vid. infra* 24 Febr., 3 & 10 March.

Mr. Ludolf's Answer to Dr. Frank of Hall read, and with an Amendment approv'd & ordered to be sent.[2]

Ordered that Mr. Ludolf's Paper about Catechisms[3] be committed

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[1] "The Seaman's Monitor: or Advice to Sea-faring Men, with Reference to their Behaviour Before, In, and After their Voyage," by the same Author.

[2] THE SOCIETIES ANSWER TO DR. FRANCKE, OF HALL IN SAXONY (Drawn up by Mr. W. H. Ludolf).

Sir,

Your Letter of the 25th of January rejoyced us with the account of Gods supporting you in his work, and giving a gracious blessing to some other endeavors for promoting of real Christianity in Germany. We shall always be glad to receive such Informations, and thank God if our example here in England contributes towards the incouraging other parts of Christ's Church, to take the main concern of the whole body into a serious Consideration. You have our hearty wishes, that your Attempts about mending the Education of Youth may prove more and more successful, and conduce to the rendring studies more useful in humane life and more subservient unto Temporal and Eternal Happiness. For want of this Method a great many do not devote their Talents to Gods Glory, nor use them in a right Christian way to true Gospel Purposes. Which by sad experience in Church and State every where, hath hitherto produced great Prejudices to the Universal Church, and weakened very much the Protestant Interest, affording sad Speculations to a Christian Observer in this dismal Juncture of Time. We have reason to praise God for putting some people upon endeavors to remove the Causes of so much mischief; and as our Societies here do grow by Gods blessing in number and strength, producing good fruit of spiritual improvement and charitable works, especially in Erecting Schools for the Instruction of poor Children in the Principles of the Christian Religion: so we wish you heartily Gods Direction and Assistance in your undertakings, which have such an affinity with our Christian Scope.

[3] MR. WILLIAM HENRY LUDOLF'S SCHEME ABOUT A CATECHISM TO BE COMPOS'D FOR THE USE OF THE GREEK CHRISTIANS.

In obedience to the Societys order, I have looked upon the Catechisms delivered unto me. There is three of them, The Grounds and Principles of Religion, according to the advice of the assembly of Divines at Westminster, Dr. Worthington's Scripture Catechism, The substance of the Christian

to the Divines of this Society, and they to meet on next Thursday at 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon at Mr. Brewster's Chambers.

Religion in the words and phrases of Scripture, out of which one may be chosen by the Divines of the Society, and with a very small alteration might be usefull to the imparting an Idea of Christian Knowledg to the oriental Church. But as this requires more time not onely to have it translated and printed, but likewise to prepare the oriental Church for making use of it I humbly conceive it might not be uselesse, if in the mean while one sheet onely was printed containing a word or two by way of preface to this purpose: being informed that for want of printing in the Turkish Domenions they want Books for their boys, we have ordered to print the rudiments of Christianity, to be distributed amongst them.

The Decalogue, Creed, Lords prayer and the Institution of the sacrement, some places of Scripture, especially such as contain practical Truths, a compleat systeme of Christian Theory, is neither so necessary, nor so easy to impart unto them without masters that explain and incritate [? inculcate] it. In the paper joyned hereunto I have set down such passages, as have occurred to my mind. If they would get them into their Memory, God might inable them in time to put them into practice. Practising those duty's wch we know, I find the surest way to attain to more real knowledg. At least such a little book as a proof of our love and care for them, might induce some of them to desire more Knowledg of us.

What I find necessary to be altered in the scriptural Catechism, is: leaving out the number of Sacrements; and the question may be put: which are the Sacrements that Christ instituted instead of asking how many Sacrements is there.

(Joh. iii.) God so loved the world that he gave his onely begotten son that whosoever believeth in him, &c., whosoever believes and is baptised is saved, &c., but (Matt. vii. 21): Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom.

(Matt. xii. 50): Whosoever shall do the will of my father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, &c., and thou shalt love God with all thy soul, &c.

(Matt. vii. 12): All whatsoever you would that men should do unto you do yo so unto them.

(Matt. vi. 33): Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousnesse.

(xvi. 26): What is a man profited if he gain the whole world, &c.

(xxxiii. 12): Whosoever exaltes himself shall be abaised.

(xi. 28): Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, *ad finem capit.*

(Joh. xiv. 6): I am the way, the truth and the life, no body, &c.

(Joh. xi. 25): I am the resurrection and life who believes in me shall live though he dyeth; and whosoever lives and believes in me, shall not dye ever so. Apply.

(Joh. xv. 16): Whatsoever you ask the father in my name he will give unto you.

(Luke xi. 13): If you that are bad can give good gifts to your Children, how much more, &c.

(Joh. xiii. 34): A new commandment I give unto that you love, &c.

(Joh. xiv. 23): Whosoever loves me will keep my commandments.

(Jacob. i. 27): Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father, &c.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chichester, the Dean of Chichester, and Mr. Ludolf be desired to be at y^e^ Com^tee^.

Col. Colchester delivered a Letter from Mr. Cox, a Lay Correspondent, relating to a Charity School in Gloucester to the Lord Bishop of Worcester, who will make a Report thereof at next meeting.

Mr. Chamberlayne's Answer to Mr. Scherer[1] of St. Gall read, and with an Amendment approv'd & ordered to be sent.

(Joh. i. 7): The blood of Christ the Son of God cleanses us from all sins.

(Tit. ii. 11): The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men ; teaching us that denying unGodlinesse, &c.

(Cor. i. 20): Of God Christ is made unto us wisdom, righteousnesse, sanctification, and redemption.

(Joh. ii. 15): Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

(1 Joh. iv. 16): If a man say I love God and hateth his brother, he is a lyar.

(1 Joh. iv. 16): God is Love, and he that dweleth in Love dweleth in God and God in him.

(Jacob iv. 6): God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble.

The eight beatitudes.

They may be put somewhat better in order and some verses out of the Psalms added which direct us to apply earnestly to God, take all our delight in him, and put our whole trust in him.

If the Society thinks fitt to have the Scriptural Catechism translated into Greek it will be necessary to desire Dr. Woodroff's concurrence with whom the Greek priest lives, who may be made use of, to the ushering in, the said Catechism, amongst his Countrey men.

[1] MR. CHAMBERLAYNE'S LETTER TO MR. SCHERER OF ST. GALL IN SWITZERLAND.

Reverend Sir,

I have communicated yours of the 24th N.S. to the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, who do exceedingly rejoyce that their pious Designs (wherein the Glory of God and the Good of Souls are their only Aim) meet with so great Approbation in your Parts. They are not a little obliged to that Excellent Person Mr. Robert Hales, whom the Providence of God ha's made Instrumental in Establishing most grateful Correspondence between so many worthy persons of the English and Helvetian Churches : all Overtures whereof, they most willingly embrace. But they are of Opinion that to engage the whole body of Divines therein, is a Matter of that vast Importance, must be the work of Time, and cannot immediatly be brought to full Maturity and Perfection. They repeat the same Assurances they last gave you in relation to the young Gentleman your Son ; who, whenever you send him over, shall not want the strongest Recommendations of every Member of this Society. That God would bless the Zealous Endeavors of all Good men engaged in the Promoting of his cause, and particularly of the Pure and Evangelical Churches of Switzerland are the most hearty Prayers of our whole Body, and especially of

Reverend S^r^

Your most devoted servant

By Order of the Society. JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

A Letter read from Mr. Hales to Mr. Hodges.

Ordered that it be referred to th' abovemention'd Com^tee.

Mr. Arch Deacon Yates proposed Mr. Jn^o Hawkins for a Lay Correspondent for Marlborough, in Wiltshire.

A Letter read from Mr. Gordon [A.C. 245], relating to a Paper therein enclosed concerning the Propagation of the Gospell amongst the Indians in North America.

Ordered that it be referred to the above-mention'd Com^tee.

A Letter read from Mr. Colmore [A.C. 246], a Lay Correspondent, to Mr. Welshman, of Lapworth.

A Letter read from Mr. Welshman of Lapworth [A. C. 247].

Ordered that the Secretary do write an answer to Mr. Welshman.

Resolved y^t the five pounds w^ch at the last meeting was Ensured to the Agents towards getting up the School at St. Catherine's, in case of a Deficiency in the Subscriptions thereunto, be understood to be given absolutely, it having been the Foundation of other Subscriptions.

Ordered that the acc^ts of the Society for the last Christmas Quarter be audited here on Friday next, at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, by S^r William Hustler, Col. Colchester, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hodges, and Mr. Torriano.

The Secretary reported that he and his Assistant had gone over the Journall, and had taken notice of the Imperfect Minutes therein.

Ordered that they be considered on Friday next by the above^sd Gentlemen.

Agreed that the Society will at next meeting consider about filling up the List of Lay Correspondents.

24 February, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Evans, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, S^r Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Col. Colchester, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Chandler a Correspondent, Mr. Mason a Correspondent, the Lord Guilford, S^r Humfrey Mackworth.

Ordered that there be a Committee appointed to meet next Thursday at 4 o'Clock at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, in order to lay before this Society a compleat List of such printed Books and Papers as shall be thought fitt to be sent to the Lay as well as the Clergy Correspondents.

Ordered that Dr. Bray, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Col. Colchester be that Committee.

Ordered that the Secretary do lay before this Society at next meeting a List of all their Correspondents, in order to render it the more perfect and compleat.

Mr. Lloyd reported that the Lord Bishop of Worcester had recommended Mrs. Buckner to Dr. Lancaster, who promis'd to take care to

place her over the next Charity School for Girls that should happen to be Erected in his Parish.

Ordered that the Secretary do draw up an Answer to Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.

This was done, but the original Letter is lost by Mr. Wanley.

Mr. Skeat report's that there is now £36 a year subscrib'd at the School of St. Catherines upon the Foundation of the £5 first ensur'd, and then given thereunto by this Society.

Also that there is a new School sett up at St. Hellens for 30 Boys, maintain'd by the Subscriptions of the Parishioners.

Also that the Subscriptions to the School at Clerkenwell are now upwards of £100 per annum.

The Society recommended Mr. Richd. Gunnis to the Agents to be by them plac'd over the next Charity School that is Erected or happen's to want a Schoolmaster.

Mr. Gardner report's that the School at St. Sepulchres for 50 Boys cloathed, is now opened.

Mr. Shute report's that a Gentlewoman at Cripplegate ha's given £30 towards the Cloathing the Boys of that School, and that the Society there would subscribe a sum sufficient to cloath the rest.

Ordered that Mr. Lloyd do prepare a present answer to Mr. Bedford, of Bristol, and that he lay it before the above-mention'd Committee.

Ordered that Dr. Evans do bring to the next meeting a List of such Welch Books as are proper to be sent to the Correspondents in Wales.[1]

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[1] The following is the list submitted :—

1. Bishop Jewel's Apology.
2. Dent's Plain Way to Heaven.
3. Practise of Piety.

(No. 4 omitted.)

5. Arch Bp. Usher's Method of Self-examination.
6. A Discourse to the same purpose, originally in Welsh, by Mr. Owen, then sequester'd Vicar of Wrexham.
7. Brough's Devotions.
8. Quadriga Salutis, by Dr. Powel, originally in Welsh, and by him Translated into English.
9. Whole Duty of Man.
10. Baxter's Call to the Unconverted.
11. Mr. Gouge's book.
12. Shepherd's Sincere Convert.
13. Several small Tracts by Morgan Lloyd, originally in Welsh.
14. Hannes y Fydd, originally in Welsh.
15. Bp. Griffyth on the Lord's Prayer, and on the Creed, originally in Welsh.
16. Bp. Ken on the Catechism.
17. Oxford Catechism,
18. Bp. Williams's Catechism.

Ordered that Dr. Evans be desired to find out a fitt person who may translate into Welch the following Books and Papers, viz^{t} :—

1. A Perswasive towards the Observation of the Lord's Day.[1]
2. The Caution against Swearing.
3. The Caution against Drunkenness.
4. A Rebuke to Uncleanness.

Mr. James Vernon (son to Mr. Secretary Vernon) was propos'd the third time and approv'd, he having propos'd at the last 2 meetings, according to order.

Ordered that Dr. Willis do desire him to attend.

Ordered that 200 Copies of each of the Books wh^{ch} were ordered at the last meeting to be bought and dispersed amongst the Seamen, be delivered to Dr. Bray to be dispersed in Maryland and Virginia.

Mr. Lloyd reported from the Committee that they had taken Mr. Ludolf's Papers about Catechisms into Consideration, and had made some Progress in that matter.

Ordered that it be deferred till Dr. Woodroff, Principall of Gloucester Hall, in Oxford, be come to Town.

Ordered that Mr. Hale's Letter to Mr. Hodges, be farther referred to th' above-mention'd Committee.

Ordered that the accounts of the Society be farther considered by the same Committee, who were approved for this purpose at the last meeting.

Ordered that this be done at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Thursday at 3 o'Clock.

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19. Plain Man's Way to Practise and Worship.
20. A Dialogue between a Protestant and a Papist.
21. Christian Monitor.
22. Dr. Sherlock of Death.
23. Bishop Prideaux's Euchologion.
24. Vicar of Llairymddyfris' [*sic*] Religious Poems.
25. Answer to the Excuses for not coming to the Sacrament.
26. Foulk Owen's Collection of Religious Poems.
27. Tho. Jones's Collection of Religious Poems.
28. Familiar Guide.
29. Help to Beginners.
30. Ashton's Method of Dayly Devotion.
31. Pastoral Letter.
32. Dr. Beveridge's Sermon.
33. The best Companion.
34. Unum Necessarium, a Discourse of Prayer, originally in Welsh.

There is now in the Press

35. Bp. Taylor's Holy Living.
36. Christian Guide.
37. The best Guide.

[1] This seems to be the first step taken by the Society to provide works in Welsh. These Tracts were all written by Dr. Woodward, of Poplar.

March 3, 1700-1.

Present: Mr. Frank, a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Col. Colchester, Dr. Evans, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Griffith a Correspondent, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Littel, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Parker a Correspondent, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Cotton, Mr. George Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Slare.

Ordered that Dr. Kennett do write a Letter of Thanks to Mr. Deffray, of Rumney, this week.

Ordered that Mr. Shute do write an Answer to Mr. Taylor of Wigan.

Ordered that Dr. Kennett do prepare an answer to the Letter from Mr. Hales to Mr. Hodges, and that he do lay it before this Society at next meeting.

Mr. Skeat report's that the School at Clerkenwell was opened the last Saturday.

Mr. Frank reported that two young men of Kempston in Bedfordshire have undertaken to teach gratis all poor Children & Servants that come to them.

Ordered that a Sum not exceeding forty shillings be allow'd the Charity School of Kempston, to be dispos'd of according to such notices as Mr. Frank shall hereafter give to the Society thereof.

A Letter from the Bishop of Salisbury to Mr. Griffith (encouraging the Society of Clergymen in the County of Berks) was read, together with the Resolutions of the said Society.

Resolv'd that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Serjeant Hook for his great care and trouble in managing the place of Treasurer to this Society.

Agreed that Mr. Shute be desired to be Treasurer to this Society for the year ensuing.

An Answer to Mr. Bedford's Letter was read & approved of, and ordered to be sent.[1]

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[1] The Societie's Present Answer to Mr. Bedford, of Bristol.

(Drawn up by Mr. Lloyd.)

Reverend Sir, *March* 4, 1700–1.

I have thus long deferr'd returning you the Thanks of our Society for your Excellent Letter, in hopes of being able by this time to have given you an account of some good Effect of the Proposals in it, which the Society receiv'd, with a great deal of Satisfaction, and hope to see the Success of by the blessing of God, as soon as they can be put in Execution.

As soon as I had communicated your Letter to the Society, they took care to have the Proposals for bringing over the Quakers laid before my Lord Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, who very much approv'd of them. But his Grace thought fit to defer resolving any thing about that matter, because your City

Mr. Lloyd report's that the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury doe's suspend the Consideration of that part of Mr. Bedford's Letter relating to the Quakers till the Lord Bishop of Bristol be come to Town.

Ordered that what Cash do's remain in Mr. Serjeant Hook's hands that was advanc'd upon the account of Plantations (viz.) the Sum of £23. 18s. od. be paid forthwith to Dr. Bray.

Ordered that the Sum of £22. 17s. 04d. wh^{ch} doe's remain in Mr. Serjeant Hook's hands of the Quarterly Subscriptions, together with the Books and Papers relating to the accounts of the Society, be delivered to Mr. Shute, the new Treasurer.

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of Bristol is so overrun with Quakers, and therefore principally concern'd, till the Bishop of Bristol come's up to Town, and then his Grace will consider it with his Lordship, and some more of their Bretheren the Bishops, and Mr. George Keith. When they have done this, and are come to any Resolution in it, you shall be sure to have a farther Account from me.

The Society doth very much rejoyce to hear that your City is so heartily engaged in the truly Christian Work of setting up Charity Schools, to which they wish all possible Success. It hath pleas'd God to give such a blessing to their Endeavors of that Nature in and about this City, that there are at present above a thousand poor Children clothed, and carefully Instructed in the Principles of their Religion, and other things that may make them useful Members of the Public, who otherwise might have been the greatest nusances to it.

Here is lately Publish'd a little Treatise called the Seamans Monitor, of which the Society ha's order'd a dozen to be sent you. It is so approv'd by the Society that they have resolved to disperse several hundreds of them on board his Majestie's Fleet, and to send a quantity of them to the Plantations. This book might certainly be of great use in a City of so large a foreign Trade as yours is; for we cannot hope that your Seamen are better Christians than they are in other places. If our Mariners could be Reform'd, and brought to the Knowledge and Practise of their Religion, what blessed Instruments might they be of Propagating Christian Knowledge all over the World. You are therefore desired to recommend this book to S^{r} John Duddlestone, and any other of your Merchants that may be likely to concurr with our Designs in promoting the Interests of Christianity.

The Account you give of the State of Religion in some parts of Wales is very Melancholy, nor do we hope to have it mend very much till a better Provision be made for the Clergy there, whose Learning will be proportionable to their means of attaining it. What the Society can do towards making them better Christians by sending them books of Religion, you may be sure shall not be wanting, and there hath been sufficient Care of this taken already in some Counties both of North and South-Wales.

The Society desire's the Assistance of your Praiers for the blessing of Almighty God upon their Endeavors for promoting of God's Glory in propagating Christian Knowledge, they recommend you and your Labors to the Divine goodness, as does

&c.

JOHN CHAMBERLAYNE.

Col. Colchester reported from the Committee that they had drawn up a List of Books which, as they did conceive, were necessary to be sent to the Correspondents.

Upon which the said List was read, and with some Additions agreed unto by the Society, and ordered to be sent accordingly.[1]

Mr. Lloyd Reported that the Lord Bishop of London and the Earl of Bridgwater would consider of a proper method for dispersing the Society's Books and Papers amongst the Seamen on board his Majesty's Fleet.

Alsoe that the Lord Bishop of Worcester had spoken to Judge Powell concerning the School at Gloucester, and that the Judge had promised to bestow a considerable Benefaction thereunto.

The accompts of the Society being audited and sign'd, the State thereof was laid before the Society and approved.

Mr. Daniel Nichols was approved of (having been propos'd at the two last meetings), and Mr. Bromfield to desire his attendance.

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[1] The List of Books and Papers sent and to be sent to the Correspondents.

March 3, 1700–1.

Dr. Woodward's Book, and the Abridgement thereof.
Mr. Yates's Book. The Hist. of y^e^ Societys for Reformation.
Help to a National Reformation.
Bristol Account of y^e^ Corporation for y^e^ Poor at Bristol.
The Account of Societies, in Eng. and French.
Pastoral Letters.
Orders for Schools.
Bedfordshire Account of the Societys of y^e^ Clergy.
Proposals about Lending Libraries.
Form of Subscription.
Rules for the same.
Dr. Woodward's Sermon.
Dr. Bray's Sermon.
Christians dayly devotion.
Mr. Keith's Broad sheet. A Serious Call to y^e^ Quakers.
Christian Scholar.
Account of the Sufferings of the French Protestants on board the Gallies.
The Church Catechism divided into 5 parts. An Exposit. of y^e^ Ch. Catech.
Vindication of those who give Information of the Breach of the Laws.
Earnest Persuasive to the Serious Observance of the Lords Day.
Kind Caution to Profane Swearers.
Account of the Nature and Design of Charity Schools.
Account of the Several Societies in French.

March 10, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Dr. Richardson, a Correspondent, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Col. Colchester, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Bray, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare (Mr. Ludolf & Mr. Philips, Correspondents), Dr. Kennett, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Clark, S[r] John Philips, Dr. Evans, Mr. Davies a Correspondent, Mr. Lloyd.

The Lord Bishop of Down and Connor[1] approved of, and Dr. Bray to desire him to attend.

Ordered that Mr. Frank, the Secretary & his Assistant do inspect the Correspondence of this Society, and that they do report the State thereof at next meeting.

Ordered that they do send away the 2d Letter to the Lay Correspondents where they shall think it proper, before they make the said Report.

Ordered that Mr. Ludolf's Proposalls about Catechisms be recommitted to the Divines of this Society, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chamber's next Thursday at 4 o'Clock, and that the Lord Bishop of Chichester[2] be particularly desired to attend.

Ordered that S[r] John Philips be desired to speak to S[r] George Rook[3] about dispersing the Seaman's Monitor, together with the Kind Caution against Swearing, and the Perswasive to the Observation of the Lord's Day amongst the Saylors in his Majesty's Navy.

The Draught of a Letter to Mr. Hales was read, and with an Amendment approved and ordered to be sent [not forthcoming].

Ordered that Dr. Kennett do draw up an Answer to Mr. Hales's [A. C. 258] 2[d] Letter to Mr. Hodges, and that he do lay it before the Society at next meeting.

Ordered that 800 of the Kind Cautions against Swearing be delivered to Major Herne, in order to be distributed amongst the Hackney[4] Coachmen.

A Letter read from Mr. Vincent Edwards of Alnwick accepting the Correspondence [A. C. 250].

A Letter read from Mr. Cocks, of Gloucester [A. C. 251].

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[1] Edward Smith, Bishop of Down and Connor, 1699-1721, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin.

[2] John Williams, D.D., born 1634; consecrated Bishop of Chichester, 1696; died 1709. Author of many Sermons, &c.

[3] Admiral Sir George Rook, who captured Gibraltar, 1704.

[4] Hackney coaches first introduced, in 1625. The Star Chamber limited their number in 1635. In 1700 the number allowed was 700.

Ordered that Dr. Evans and Mr. Lloyd do conferr with Mr. Dean, of Hereford, about the subject matter of it.

A Letter read from Mr. Gordon [A. C. 252].

A Letter read from Mr. Heart [A. C. 255].

A Letter read from Mr. Welshman [A. C. 253]

A Letter read from Mr. Wootton [A. C. 254].

March 17, 1700-1.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank a Correspondent, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Col. Colchester, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Clark, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Arch Deacon Yeates a Correspondent, Dr. Evans, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Masson a Correspondent, Dr. Willis, the Lord Guilford, and Mr. Seaman.

A Letter read from Mr. Margitt's, Minister of Kempston in Bedfordshire [A. C. 260], to Mr. Frank, relating to the late Benefaction of this Society to the Charity School in that place.

The Secretary acquainted the Society that the Lord Arch Bishop of York doe's desire to see a List of the printed Books and Papers dispersed by this Society.

Ordered that he do wait upon his Grace with the said List.

Mr. Bridges report's that the School of Twickenham will be opened at Lady-day, above £30 per annum being subscrib'd thereunto.

Ordered that the Lord Guilford be desired to speak to the Lord Brook to encourage the said School.

Mr. Skeat report's that the Subscriptions to the School at St. Catherine's are now risen to £50 per annum.

Ordered that it be recommended to the Agents of Schools to keep a Table or Register of the Benefactors to each Charity School in the vestry of the Parish Church.

Ordered that Mr. Lloyd be desired to speak with the Lord Bishop of Chester about the setling a Correspondence with the Clergy and Laity at Namptwich.

Mr. Frank reported that they had made some Progress in Inspecting the Correspondence of this Society, and moved that they might have further time allow'd for finishing the same.

Ordered that the same Committee draw up a method for the keeping up the Correspondence of this Society against next meeting.

Ordered that Dr. Willis do draw up an answer to S^r^ John Dudleston's & to the Letter of Arch Deacon Entwistle, dated Nov^r^ 15 [A. C. 207], 1700.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do make an Index to the Abstract of the Letters to this Society against next meeting.[1]

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[1] This index is in MS., and is printed at the end of the Abstract of Correspondence.

A Debate arising about a Missionary or Missionaries to America to be maintained by this Society.

Agreed that the particular members of this Society be desired to recommend this matter among their Friends and acquaintance.

Ordered that the Treasurer do pay to the Lord Bishop of Chichester the sum of £8 per annum, by quarterly payments, to be disposed of in his Diocess towards Schools and other Charitable uses, as his Lordship shall think fitt.

Dr. Bray reported that 9 Missionaries to the Plantations are in a very fair way of being compleated, £400 per annum being already subscribed, besides £50 extraordinary.

Mr. Brewster reported from the Committee that they had agreed to desire the Lord Bishop of Chichester to draw up a Paper, by way of Question and Answer, for the use of the Greek Christians, which Paper Dr. Woodroff has promised shall be translated into the vulgar Greek by some Greeks at Oxford, and may be then printed and sent accordingly.

Also that his Lordship had undertaken to draw up such a Paper.

Mr. Lloyd report's that S^r^ John Philips has spoken to S^r^ George Rook about dispersing the Seaman's Monitor, &c., amongst the Seamen, which S^r^ George ha's readily promised to do to the utmost of his power.

Dr. Kennet's Answer to Mr. Hales was read, approv'd of, and order'd to be sent.[1]

Mr. Nelson reported that a Gentleman, who desire's to be unknown, ha's given 10 Guineas to the Plantations.

Ordered that Mr. Holland be a Corresponding Member for Brigg, in Lincolnshire, and that Mr. Brewster do advertize him thereof.

S^r^ Arthur Owen approv'd of, & S^r^ John Philips to desire his attendance.

March 24, 1700-1.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd (Mr. Frank & Mr. Masson, Correspondents), S^r^ Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Bray (Mr. Bowman, Mr. Keith, Dr. Wynne, Mr. Davies, S^r^ Richd. Bulkeley, Correspondents), Dr. Evans, and Mr. Trymmer.

Ordered that the Rev^d^ Mr. Bowerman be a Corresponding Member for Ireland.

Mr. Lloyd reported that he had waited on the Lord Bishop of Chester, who did promise to consider of some fitt persons, both Lay & Clergy, to be recommended as Correspondents for Namptwich.

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[1] This answer is not forthcoming. There is a blank space for it below the heading in the Letter Book.

Mr. Frank reported from the Committee appointed to inspect the Correspondence of the Society that they had drawn up a Postscript to the Generall Letter, which they had added to 22 Copies to the said Generall Letter, which Postscript, with the Addition to some particular persons, was read and approv'd by the Society.

Also, that the said Committee did desire some further time for the finishing this matter of the Correspondence.

Dr. Bray reported that the Subscriptions to the Plantations doe now amount to £600 per annum.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Shewell be a Correspondent for Gravesend.

Ordered that Mr. Nelson be desired to return the Thanks of this Society to his Friend for his late Benefaction to the Plantations.

Order'd that the Lord Bishop of Bangor be desired to be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

S^r^ Rich^d^ Bulkeley reported that Col. Bowyer, of Camberwell, ha's promised to give the Interest of £500 for 7 years (upon fitting Security) to the Charity School at St. Georges, in Southwark.

Ordered that it be recommended to Mr. Bromfield to find him sufficient security.

The Secretary presented the sum of 40 shillings as a Gift to this Society (for the promotion of their pious Designs) from Mr. Kendall, the Correspondent for Cornwall.

Ordered that the Secretary do return Mr. Kendal the Thanks of this Society for his said Benefaction.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Newton and Mr. Avenant be Correspondents for Newant in Gloucestershire.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Johns, of Stroud, be a Correspondent for Strowdwater in the same County.

Ordered Mr. Edward Willey be a Lay Correspondent for the Isle of Barbadoes.

Ordered that Mr. Chancellor, of St. Asaph, and Mr. Davies be desired to lye before this Society a List of the names of such Gentlemen as they shall think fitt to be recommended to this Society as Correspondents for the Diocess of St. Asaph.

Ordered that S^r^ Richard Bulkeley's table of Schools be fairly copyed against next meeting.

Ordered that there be delivered to Mr. Jackson, the Missionary to Newfoundland, 1,000 copies of each of the Books and Papers following:—

1. The former part of the Pastorall Letter.[1]
2. Latter part of the same.[2]

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[1] "A Pastoral Letter from a Minister to his Parishioners: being an Earnest Exhortation to them to take care of their Souls, and a Preparative, in order to render all future Methods of Instruction more effectual to their Education.' Sixth Edition. London: 1713.

[2] "Pastoral Advices and Directions in Order to a *Virtuous Life* here, and *Eternal Happiness* hereafter." 3rd Edit. 1729.

3. Kind Caution to Swearers.
4. Perswasive to the Observation of the Lord's Day.
5. Rebuke to the Sinn of Uncleanness.
6. The Christian's Way to Heaven.

Ordered that the Secretary do send to Mr. Serj^{t} Hook 100 copies of the Prayers for Prisoners under sentence of Death in order to distribute y^{m} as occasion shall serve.

March 31, 1701.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank a Correspondent, Mr. Clark (Mr. Bowerman & Mr. Keith Correspondents), Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, the Lord Bishop of Worcester, Mr. Lloyd (the Lords the Bishops of Bangor & of Down & Connor Correspondents), Mr. Nichols, the Dean of Chichester, & Dr. Willis.

Ordered that the Lord Guilford be Reminded to speak to the Lord Brook concerning the School at Twickenham.

Ordered that Dr. Willis be putt in mind of the two Letters he is to draw up for S^{r} John Dudlestone and Arch Deacon Entwistle.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chichester be reminded of the Paper he ha's under taken to draw up for the Instruction of the Greek Christians.

Mr. Lloyd reported that he had spoken to the Earle of Pembroke (now first Commissioner of the Admiralty) upon the matter of dispersing the Society's Books and Papers amongst the seamen on board his Majesty's Fleet, and that his Lordship had promised to encourage and countenance all the pious Designs of this Society.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chester be consulted about the Erecting a Charity School at Liverpool.

Dr. Willis read his answer to Arch Deacon Entwistle, wherein is offered by the Society the sum of £10 to the Arch Deaconry of Richmond towards the Erection of a Lending Library therein, upon Condition that it be brought to perfection.

Mr. Frank read the Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the Correspondence of this Society.

Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant be allow'd the Charge of a Porter for carrying the Pacquetts.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor be desired to recommend some fitt persons in the Chief Town of his Diocess for Correspondents with this Society.

Ordered that the Addition to the Generall Letter be sent to those Gentlemen to whom it has not been sent already.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Fenwick had sent £40 for the Plantations, which sum he design's to remitt annually.

Mr. Bromfield reported that he had mett with fitting security for

Col. Bowyer's £500, and that they would wait on the Col. sometime this week to treat with him about that matter.

Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Willey of Barbadoes.

Dr. Bray reported that in Newfoundland[1] there are constantly (in the seaven Bays thereof belonging to the English) about 7,000 People, and in Summer about 17,000 Souls who have not yet had any Minister or ministerial offices performed amongst them.

Also that Mr. Jackson, who is appointed to be Minister at St. John's Fort, is desired to visit the 6 other Bays, and to appoint a Reader to celebrate Divine Service in each of them.

Ordered that a sum not exceeding £6 be laid out in Church Bibles and Common Prayers, to be carryed thither by the said Mr. Jackson.

7 April, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Littell, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Clark, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Stanhope a Correspondent, Lord Guilford, Mr. Vernon, Dr. Willis, Dr. Kennett.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Jackson be a Correspondent for Newfoundland.

Ordered that it be referred to Dr. Willis to consider of the necessary Alterations in the Circular Letters.

Ordered that Sir Richard Bulkeley be reminded of the Table of Schools.

Mr. Skeat report's that at the School at East Smithfield there are now 46 Girls cloathed.

Mr. Bridges report's that the School at Twickenham will be soon opened, £50 per annum being subscribed thereunto.

Mr. Skeat report's that at Clerkenwell the School was opened a week ago, about £150 per annum being subscribed, and 25 Boys cloathed.

Ordered that 100 Copies of the Book call'd the Christian Schollar[2] be delivered to the Agents of Schools, and distributed by them according to their Discretion.

The Agents laid before the Society some Proposalls of theirs relating to Schools.

Ordered that they be referred to the Consideration of Dr. Willis.

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[1] The sovereignty of England was not recognised till 1715. Dr. Bray, in his Memorial, deplores the fact that at this time "no Preaching, Prayers, or Sacraments, or any Ministerial or Divine Offices, were performed" in Newfoundland.

[2] "The Christian Scholar, in Rules and Directions for Children and Youth sent to English Schools, more especially designed for the Poor Boys Taught and Cloathed by *Charity* in the Parish of St. Botolph, Aldgate," by White Kennett, D.D. (Bp. of Peterboro'). Seventh Edit., 1728.

14 April, 1701.

Present: The Lord Bishop of Chester, Dr. Bray (Mr. Masson & Mr. Bowerman, Correspondents), S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Evans, Dr. Willis, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Keith a Correspondent.

The Lord Bishop of Chester acquainted the Society that he should visit his Diocess soon after Easter, that then he would talk with the ministers of Liverpool about the Erection of a Charity School there, w^ch^ Design his Lordship promised to promote, and that he would transmitt to the Society an account of what he should doe therein.

Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Shewell about a method of dispersing the Society's Books and Papers amongst the Seamen on board his Majesty's Fleet.

The Lord Bishop of Chester declared his opinion that Kendall is the most proper Place for a Lending Library within the Arch Deaconry of Richmond, there being 12 Chappells of Ease belonging to the Vicaridge of Kendal, the Curates of which are all very meanly provided for.

Ordered that a Summ not exceeding £3. 12s. be delivered to Mr. Skeat, in order to buy a parcell of Bibles and Common Prayers for the Charity School at Cripplegate.

Ordered that £20 be allowed the Masters of Charity Schools towards the Charges of their Meeting the next week.

The Lord Bishop of Chester reported that about Christmas week last there was a Charity School open'd at Chester for 40 Boys, to which is now Subscribed £68. 10s. per annum, which his Lordship hope's will be advanced to £80 per annum upon his next Journey into the Country.

Mr. Shute reported that the Lord Keeper had given £5 out of the Box money to this Society to be disposed toward the Promoting Charity Schools as they shall think fitt.

Ordered that Mr. Shute & Mr. Littell do return his Lordship the Thanks of this Society for his said Benefaction.

Ordered that the said £5 be employed in promoting the Charity School at Wapping.

Ordered that the Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the Correspondents of this Society be again considered at next meeting.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chester be desired to dispose of £10 a year (being his Subscription to this Society) within his Diocess in such charitable uses as his Lordship shall think fitt.

A Letter, with 2 Extracts of Letters, read from Mr. Ostervald [A. C. 278].

S^r^ John Chardin approv'd of, and Mr. Lloyd to desire his attendance.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Thomas Pomfrett be a Correspondent for Luton in Bedfordshire, being propos'd by Dr. Bray.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Thomas Binnes be a Correspondent for Cheadle in Staffordshire, being propos'd by Mr. Bromfield.

Order'd that Mr. Edward Bromfield be a Lay Correspondent for Boston in New England.

21 April, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield (Mr. Masson, Mr. Edward Bromfield, Correspondents), Mr. Seaman, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Col. Dudley a Correspondent.

Ordered that the Proposalls of the Agents of Schools be referred to Dr. Woodward, and that he be desired to prepare and fitt them for the Press.

Ordered that 1,000 Copies of the printed Papers against uncleanness and Drunkenness be bought.

Ordered that 800 Copies of each be distributed amongst the Seamen with the other Books and Papers sent them by this Society.

Ordered that 200 Copies of each be delivered to Dr. Bray, to be by him dispersed in Mary Land[1] and Virginia.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfield be desired to conferr with Col. Bowyer sometime this week upon the Subject of Charity Schools.

Mr. Shute reported that at Cripplegate School there are 100 Boys cloathed with Cloath Coats, Caps, Bands, Stockings, Shooes and Buckles for £48.

Ordered that such a List of the Correspondents be delivered to Mr. Skeate as he shall desire, and that the Secretary do give him a Recommendatory Letter to them.

A Draught of a Letter to the Dean and Ministers of Neufchatel was read.

Ordered that it be referred (together with the Abstract from Mr. Ostervalde's Letter to Mr. Masson) to the Consideration of a Committee, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers on Wednesday next at 5 o'clock.

Ordered that Mr. Masson, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Chamberlayne be that Committee.

Ordered that it be referred to Col. Dudley and Mr. Chamberlayne

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[1] Maryland had obtained an Established Church in 1699. In 1700 many Parishes had built churches, but were unable to get ministers to officiate. The salary generally paid in this colony was about £80 a year; but this depended altogether on the success of the tobacco crop, all salaries being paid in that article. The Quakers were calculated to be about one-tenth of the population.

to take care of the Distribution of the Society's Books and Papers amongst the Seamen on board his Majesty's Fleet.

Resolved that all persons who are in arrears to this Society as their Subscriptions be desired to pay in such arrears to the Treasurer with all convenient speed.

Ordered that a Copy of the said Resolution be sent forthwith to those Members of this Society as are so found in arrears, and that their attendance be desired at next meeting upon matters of great moment.

A Letter read from Mr. Hales to Mr. Hodges [A. C. 283].

Ordered that it be again read at next meeting.

A Letter read from Mr. Gordon [A. C. 280].

Ordered that it be referred to Col. Dudley and Mr. Chamberlayne, and that it be again read at next meeting immediately after the Minutes, and nothing to intervene.

Ordered that Dr. Bray do lay before the Society at next meeting a List of such Books as he shall judge proper to be procured to compleat a Lending Library for the Fleet.

28 April, 1701.

Present: Dr. Evans, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Mecken, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bulstrode (Mr. Masson, Mr. Bowerman, Correspondents), Mr. Nevill, Dr. Nichols a Correspondent, the Lord Guilford.

Mr. Neville approved of, and Dr. Bray to desire his Attendance.

Ordered that a Committee do meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Thursday at 4 o'clock for the Regulating and Compleating the Correspondence of this Society.

Ordered that S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bulstrode, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nevill, Dr. Nichols, & Mr. Seaman be that Committee.

Mr. Chamberlayne reporting that the Paper against Drunkenness is not yet printed,

Ordered that instead thereof, 1,000 more of the Papers against Swearing be sent and distributed amongst the Seamen.

The Translation of a French Letter to the Dean[1] and Pastors of Neufchatel was read, approv'd, and ordered to be sent.

Ordered that Mr. Tronchin and Mr. Turetin be Correspondent for Geneva.

Ordered that Mr. Saurin be the Correspondent for Utrecht.

Ordered that Mr. Nevill be desired to advertise them thereof.

Mr. Hales Letter to Mr. Hodges was again read.

Ordered that Dr. Nicholls do draw up a Latin Letter to be sent to

[1] J. F. Osterwald, who was appointed Dean in 1700.

the Clergy of Canton of Zurich, and that he do bring it to the Committee next Thursday.

A Debate arising about a Lending Library for the Fleet,

Ordered that it be referred to th' abovementioned Com^tee and they to meet at Mr. Brewsters next Thursday at 3 o'Clock, and to estimate the Charge thereof.

Ordered that four pounds be distributed amongst Mr. Serj^t Hook's servants.

The Translation of a Letter read from Mr. De Berringhen [A. C. 285].

Ordered that the Secretary do draw up an answer thereunto.

Dr. Bray reported that the Executors of Mr. Thoresby, having mett with his Memoriall, have disposed (out of Mr. Thorseby's money left to Charitable uses) of the sume of £100 in buying of Bibles, Common Prayers, and Catechisms for the Plantations, and that accordingly with the said sum there are bought 40 Church Bibles, 500 smaller Bibles, 500 Common Prayers, and upwards of 2,000 Catechisms.

5 May, 1701.

Present: Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Shute, Dr. Bray, S^r Edmund Turner, Col. Colchester, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Clark, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bromfield (Mr. Deffray, Dr. Stanhope, & Mr. Bowerman, Correspondents), Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Nevill (S^r Richard Bulkeley, Mr. Masson, Col. Dudley, & Mr. Edward Bromfield Correspondents).

Mr. Bromfield reported that Col. Bowyer had promised to subscribe £20 or £25 a year for the Support of Charity Schools.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Bridges do conferr again with Col. Bowyer about this matter, and that they take with them the Subscription Roll.

Mr. Bridges report's that the School at Twickenham was opened last Tuesday, and that there are 50 Boys Cloath'd therein.

Also That at St. Andrew's, Holbourn, they have added 20 Girls to the number before taught there.

Also that a certain Lady is about setting up a School at Watford in Hartfordshire for 40 Boys there to be taught for ever.

Mr. Serjeant Hook reported that the Lord Keeper had been pleased of his own accord to promise to promote the pious Designs of this Society, especially in regard to Charity Schools, for which he seemed to have a particular concern.

Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be returned to his Lordship, and that the Lords Bishops of Worcester, Chichester, Gloucester, and Bangor, the Lord Guilford, S^r John Philips, and Mr. Justice Hook, or any three of them, be desired to do the same.

The Secretary report's that the Arch Bishop of York was very well

pleased with the Proceedings of this Society, which he promised to encourage in his Province, & and that as an earnest of his good will he would send them £10, to be disposed as they should think fitt.

Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be returned to his Grace, and that the Lord Guilford, S^r^ John Philips, S^r^ William Hustler, and the Secretary be desired to wait on his Grace with the same.

Resolved that it be a standing order to this Society that all new motions be made at the second reading of the Minutes, after those of the first week, and before those of the last.

Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Baron be a Correspondent for Maryland, being propos'd by Dr. Bray.

Ordered that Mr. Richard Bromhall be a Lay Correspondent for Ryegate in Surrey, being propos'd by Mr. Cranston.

A Letter read from S^r^ George Wheeler [A. C. 272].

Ordered that the Secretary do return him a short answer of Thanks.

Ordered that the said Letter from S^r^ George Wheeler be referred to the Lord Bp. of Worcester, and to the other Lords the Bishops who are Members of this Society.

A Letter read from Mr. Cranston of Ryegate.

Mr. Bromfield reported that Mr. Cranston was erecting a very considerable Lending Library at Ryegate, and that it is in a fair way of being compleated.

A Letter read from Mr. Bedford at Bristol [A. C. 293].

A Letter read from S^r^ William Daws.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfield doe write an answer to Mr. Cranston.

The Translation of a Letter read from Mr. Scherer [A. C. 284].

Ordered that S^r^ Richard Bulkeley be desired to answer it.

A Letter read from Mr. Lewis of Ackryse [A. C. 290].

Ordered that half a hundred of the late printed Letters to Justices of Peace be bought, and laid before the Society next meeting.

A Letter read from Mr. Shewell [A. C. 291].

Ordered that Mr. Shute do conferr with his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury upon the Subject matter of it.

A Letter read from Mr. Tatam of Sutton (on the Hill) in Derbyshire [A. C. 288].

A Letter read from Mr. Ostervald [A. C. 292].

Ordered that the Secretary do write answers to S^r^ Will^m^ Daws, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Tatam.

Mr. Deffray presented to the Society for the Plantations two Guineas from Mr. John Thomas, of New Rumney, and seaventeen shillings from another Gentleman who desire's to be unknown.

Ordered that Mr. Deffray be desired to return the Thanks of the Society to the said Gentlemen for their said Benefaction.

The Draught of a Charter for the Erecting a Corporation for Propagating the Gospell in Foreign Parts was read.[1]

[1] This is the first recorded step towards the Charter for S.P.G. *See* next two meetings, and those of June 9th and June 23rd.

Ordered thereupon that a List of the Residing Members of this Society be delivered to Dr. Bray.

12 May, 1701.

Present: Dr. Davies a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Col. Colchester, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Clarke, Dr. Harvey, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Mr. Justice Hook, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Deffray a Correspondent, Dr. Mapletoft, Dr. Evans, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Hodges, S^r^ Richd. Bulkeley a Correspondent, Mr. Charnberlayne, the Lord Bishop of Worcester, Mr. Baccus a Correspondent, S^r^ W^m^ Hustler, Mr. Brewster, S^r^ John Philips.

Ordered that Mr. Neville be putt in mind of the Letters he was desired to write to Mr. Tronchin, Mr. Turetin, & Mr. Saurin.

Ordered that the Rev^d^ Mr. Baccus be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

The Petition of Dr. Bray to his Majesty, with other Papers relating to the Corporation to be erected for the Propagation of the Gospell in Foreign Parts was read.

The Lord Guilford Reported that his Grace the Arch Bishop of Canterbury upon a Discourse with his Lordship about the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts had promised 20 Guineas towards the Charges of passing the Grant of it.

Ordered that Mr. Brewster & Mr. Bulstrode be assisting to Dr. Bray in solliciting the said Grant thro' the severall offices, and that they do lay an Estimate of the Charges thereof before this Society at next meeting.

Ordered that all the absent Members be summoned then to attend.

The Translation of the Latin Letter of this Society to the Clergy of the Canton of Zurich was read, approv'd, and (with some Amendments) ordered to be sent.

His Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of York sent by the Secretary £10 to this Society, to be disposed as they shall think fitt.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Worcester and the Lord Guilford do return the Thanks of this Society to his Grace the Arch Bishop of Canterbury for his promise of 20 Guineas, and that they do communicate the orders of this Society & Forms of Subscriptions to the Right Honorable the Lord Keeper.

A Letter read from Mr. Professor Frank of Hall in Saxony [A. C. 296].

Ordered that the new Account of the Progress of the Reformation of Manners, with the Letter to Justices of the Peace, be sent in the Packetts to the Correspondents of this Society.

19 May, 1701.

Present: Dr. Davies, a Correspondent, Mr. Littell, Mr. Shute, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Trymmer, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Seaman, Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Manningham, Sr. Rich[d] Bulkeley a Correspondent, Mr. Cotton, Col. Colchester, Mr. Nicolls, Lord Bp. of Bangor a Correspondent.

Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chichester be desired to speak with Mr. Dean of Peterborough concerning the Charity School designed to be sett up in Covent Garden Parish.

Ordered that the Reverend Dr. Green be desired to conferr with the Rev[d] Mr. Wright concerning a Charity School at Stepney.

Ordered that the Treasurer do deliver to the Agents of Schools a fitting number of the printed Papers following, viz[t] .—

Kind Caution to Profane Swearers.
——————— ag[t] the Sin of Uncleanness.
Perswasive to the Observation of the Lord's Day.
Caution ag[t] the Sin of Drunkenness.
Vindication of those who inform of the Breach of the Law.

Ordered that the Society do meet next Thursday at Mr. Brewster's Chambers to propose Mr. Wright the second time.

Ordered that Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Bridges be putt in mind of carrying the Subscription Roll of the Charity Schools to Colonel Bowyer.

The Charter[1] was again read & debated, & several Amendments made, and the names of the Secretary & other officers propos'd and agreed to, and it being very late, the farther consideration of it was referred to S[r] Richard Bulkeley, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, & the Secretary, who are to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers to-morrow at 4 in the Afternoon.

Mr. Bulstrode reported that he had informed himself of the Charges of passing the Grant for a Charter, and that he found that the Charges of the first skin would amount to threescore pounds, and all the rest to twenty each.

26 May, 1701.

Present: Mr. Shute, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Nevill, Mr. Clark, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Torriano, Dr. Bray, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Evans, Dr. Willis, S[r] Richd. Bulkeley a Correspondent, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Comyns, Lord Guilford, Col. Colchester.

Mr. Bridges report's that Col. Bowyer ha's subscribed £5, part of the £25, to the School in St. Georges, Southwark, and the School for

[1] S.P.G. Charter.

Girls in St. Andrews, Holbourne, is increased to the number of Fourscore.

Mr. Skeat report's that there is a Benefaction of £20 lately made to the School of Girls in White Chappell.

Mr. Gardener report's that at St. Sepulcher's Parish the Subscription to the School for Boys is arisen to £110 per annum.

The Letters to Mr. Tronchin, Mr. Turetin, & Mr. Saurin were read. But not entered into the Appendix to the Journal, because they were drawn by a private hand, & regularly ought not to have been read.

Resolved that the Accompts of this Society be audited once a Quarter.

Mr. Wright approv'd, having been propos'd the 2d time last Thursday, and Mr. Serjt Hook to desire his attendance.

Resolved that if there shall be present moneys wanting for the Payment of the Charter for Erecting a Corporation for propagating the Gospell in Foreign Parts, that this Society will advance the Same upon the Creditt of the said Corporation.

Resolved that in case of such want of moneys this Society will apply the late Benefaction of his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of York to this use.

Thereupon Mr. Bromfield proferred to advance £20 to the same use.

2 June, 1701.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Dr. Stanhope a Correspondent, Sr Edmund Turner, Sr Richard Blackmore, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Masson a Correspondent, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Arch Deacon Trimnel, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Bromfield.

1. Dr. Trymnel[1] and Col. Bowyer approv'd of, and Dr. Manningham to desire their attendance.

2. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Thorold be a Corresponding Member for Rotterdam in Holland.

3. Ordered that a sum not exceeding four pounds be allowed Mr. Hodges for the Translating and Printing in Dutch the following Tracts,[2] viz. :—

The Pastoral Letter, first & second Part.
A Caution against Swearing.
A Perswasive to the Observation of the Lord's Day.
A Rebuke to the Sin of Drunkeness.
A Rebuke to the Sin of Uncleanness.

4. A Letter read from Mr. Shewell [A. C. 294].

5. A Letter read from Mr. Gubbs.

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[1] Chas. Trymnel, D.D., then Archdeacon of Norfold, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, 1707, and of Winchester, 1721; died 1723.

[2] Note the early effort towards supplying Foreign Translations.

6. Ordered that a thousand Seaman's Monitors,
" " a thousand Cautions ag^st^ Swearing,
" " a thousand Cautions against Drunkeness,
" " a thousand Perswasives to the Observation of L^ds^ Day,
" " & an hundred Church Catechisms be delivered to Dr. Stanhope to put them into the Hands of Admiral Benbow,[1] who ha's promised to distribute them amongst the Seamen on board the Squadron under his command, now design'd for the West Indies.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do wait on S^r^ George Rook, and confer with him about the Books given to the Seamen under his command, and thereupon that he do write to Admiral Hobson, Mr. Shewell, and Mr. Gubbs.

8. A Letter read from Mr. Osteravald [A. C. 310].

9. Ordered that at next meeting the Letters from Mr. Hales [A. C. 308], Mr. Frank [A. C. 306], &c., be read in the first place, and nothing to intervene.

9 June, 1701.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, S^r^ Edmund Turnor, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Arch Deacon Trymnel, Col. Bowyer, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Bray, Mr. Trymner, and Mr. Keith a Correspondent.

1. The Secretary reported that he had waited on S^r^ George Rook, who again renew'd his Promises of effectually dispersing the Society's Gift of Books and Papers amongst the Seamen on board the Fleet.

2. Also that S^r^ George returned his Thanks to this Society for the Trust and Confidence they had reposed in him as to this Affair.

3. Dr. Bray reported that his Majesty had been pleased in Council to sign the Order for the Charter erecting a Corporation for Propagating the Gospell in Foreign Parts, which Charter is now actually passing the several and proper Offices.

4. Ordered that the Treasurer doe pay to Dr. Bray the sum of twenty pounds (upon the Credit of the said Corporation) towards the payment of passing the said Charter.

5. Resolved that the Arrears of Subscriptions bee applyed to the same purposes.

6. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant doe wait upon those Members who are in Arrears, and desire them to pay in the same, acquainting them with this extraordinary occasion.

7. Resolved that the Quarterly Subscription for the next Quarter be immediately raised for the same purposes.

8. Mr. Serjeant Hook (upon the Credit of the said Corporation)

[1] Admiral Benbow, the hero of the naval engagement off Carthagena, 1702. He died the same year of his wounds.

advanced tenn pounds over and above two Guineas, which he presented to the Society as a free Gift.

9. Ordered that Dr. Bray do return the Thanks of this Society to Mr. Blathwait for his great zeal, care, and pains in procuring the Law for Establishing the Church of England in Maryland.

10. A Letter read from Mr. Hales to the Secretary [A.C. 308].

11. Another Letter read from the same Gentleman to Mr. Hodges, dated May 24, 1701, wherein, amongst other matters, he desire's the Society to recommend a Swiss officer to the King.[1]

12. Resolved That this Society will always decline the Intermedling with all matters which are Foreign to their Religious Designs.

13. Ordered that Mr. Arch Deacon Trymnel do write an Answer to both the said Letters, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.

14. Ordered that the two last Letters of Mr. Hales to this Society be copyed and sent to his Brother, Mr. Arch Deacon Booth, and that the Secretary doe take care thereof.

15. Ordered that such Letters as yet remain to be read be considered at next meeting.

16 June, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Evans, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Stanhope a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Reynolds.

1. Mr. Serjeant Hook reported that the Society for Reformation of Manners had dispersed above thirty thousand printed Papers throughout all the publick Houses in and about London and Westminster, and that these Papers were well received in all these Houses, tho' between six and seaven thousand in number, except in about twenty of them.

2. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant doe remind such Gentlemen as are in Arrears to the Plantations.

3. Dr. Verney[2] approv'd, and Dr. Bray to desire his Attendance.

4. Dr. Stanhope reported that Admiral Bembow return'd his Thanks to the Society for the Trust they reposed in him, promising to use his utmost endeavours in dispersing their Books amongst the Seamen under his Command, according to their Intentions.

5. Ordered that a hundred Copies of the Christian Schollar be delivered to the Agents of Schools to be dispersed amongst the Schollars at their leaving the Schools.

6. Mr. Skeat report's that the Bishop of Salisbury preach'd yesterday at St. James's upon the Subject of Charity Schools, & that thereupon there was collected the same day about forty pounds.

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[1] This letter is not forthcoming.

[2] Hon. Geo. Verney, D.D. (Lord Willoughby de Broke), Dean of Windsor.

7. Ordered that Dr. Kennett be desired to conferr with Dr. Wake about the Charity School in his Parish.

8. The Answer to Mr. Hales's two last Letters were read, approv d, and orderd to be sent.

9. Mr. Hales having desired that this Society would certifye the Prince of Hesse Cassel, upon his coming hither, of their Designs and Methods in promoting Christian Knowledge,

10. Resolved that the Secretary do immediately inform himself of the properest way of Addressing to the Princes of Hesse Cassel, and that he be impowered to call to his Assistance such Members of this Society as he shall think necessary.

11. A Letter read from Mr. Frank [A. C. 306].

12. A Letter read from Mr. De Beringhen [A. C. 307].

13. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an Answer.

14. A Letter read from Mr. Arch Deacon Booth [A. C. 313].

15. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Lay Shaw and Mr. Blackburn be Correspondents for Warrington, in Lancashire.

16. Resolved that Mr. Noah Neat be a Lay Correspondent for Stamford, in Lincolnshire.

17. Resolved That this Society will take off a hundred Accounts of Monsieur Vallone's Conversion [*see* A. C. 307].

18. Ordered that the Secretary do advertize Mr. De Beringhen thereof.

19. The Abstract of a Letter read from Mr. Scherer.

23 June, 1701.

Present: S^r^ George Wheeler a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Sacheverell[1] a Correspondent (talk'd of, but not actually made so).

1. Ordered that a thousand of the Papers against Drunkeness be delivered to S^r^ George Rook, and a thousand of that paper against Uncleanness to Admirall Benbow, in order to disperse them amongst the Seamen under their command.

2. Ordered that a thousand of the Pastoral Letters be delivered to S^r^ George Rook, and a thousand more of the said Letters to Admiral Bembow, for the purposes above mention'd.

3. Ordered that the Secretary do take care to see this done.

4. His Majesty's Letters Patents under the Great Seal of England for erecting a Corporation by the name of the Society for Propagation

[1] This is probably the afterwards celebrated Dr. Sacheverell, who was then twenty-eight years of age.

of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was laid before the Society by Dr. Bray, and read.

5. Resolved that the Thanks of the Society be returned to Dr. Bray for his great care and pains in procuring the Grant of the s[d] Letters Patents.

6. Agreed that a Committee do wait on his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury, and with the Thanks of this Society to his Grace for his promoting the passing the aforesaid Letters Patents, to know of him what time and place he will be pleased to appoint for the first meeting of the Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

7. Ordered that S[r] John Philips, S[r] George Wheeler, S[r] W[m] Hustler, Dr. Bray, and the Secretary, or any three of them, be that Committee.

8. Dr. Bray laying before the Society Mr. Whiting's and Mr. Mackburney's Bills of the Charges of the King's Charter.

9. Agreed that the said Bills be inspected and considered by a Committee.

10. Ordered that Mr. Serjeant Hook, Dr. Bray, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, and the Secretary be that Committee, and that they do meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers to-morrow at four o'clock.

11. Resolved *nemine contradicente* that the Resolution of this Society, made on the ninth Instant, upon the desires of Mr. Hales for this Society to recommend a Swiss officer to his Majesty, be forthwith entered amongst the Standing orders of this Society.

30 June, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute (S[r] Geo. Wheeler, Dr. Woodward, & Mr. Bowerman Correspondents), Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Serjeant Hook, S[r] William Hustler, S[r] John Philips, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Vernon, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bulstrode, Col. Dudley a Correspondent, Mr. Comyns.

1. Ordered that one hundred of Dr. Bray's Baptismal Covenants be delivered to the Agents of Schools, and by them, according to their discretion, among such Schollars as leave the said Schools.

2. Ordered that the Secretary do search the Journal of this Society for their Resolutions about a General Subscription Roll to the Charity Schools, and that he do make his Report at next meeting.

3. Resolved that this Society will hereafter take into their Consideration the case of such Boys educated in the Charity Schools as are of very extraordinary Parts.

4. Ordered that the Secretary do consider the first Circular Letter to the Correspondents, and that he do lay such Alterations as he shall

judge necessary to be made therein before this Society at next meeting.[1]

5. Resolved that the Accounts of this Society be audited by a Committee at the Treasurer's, next Thursday at four o'clock.

6. Ordered that Mr. Hodges, Mr. Toriano, Mr. Seaman, the Secretary, Dr. Bray, or any of them, with Mr. Shute, be that Committee.

7. Ordered that it be an Instruction to the said Committee that they consider the State of the Debt due to Dr. Bray, and that they do make their Report at next meeting.

8. Ordered that the absent Members of this Society be summoned at next meeting.

9. Resolved that Col. Joseph Dudley, now Governour of New England, be desired to be a Correspondent with this Society for that Province, who, being present, signifyed his Acceptance.

10. The Secretary reported that the Committee had waited on his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury with the Thanks of this Society, & that his Grace had been pleased to summon the Corporation to meet together as the last Friday at his Palace at Lambeth.[2]

11. Also that the said Corporation had mett there accordingly, and made choice of their officers.

12. The Secretary reported from the Committee appointed to inspect Mr. Whiting and Mr. Mackburney's Bill of the Charges of passing the Charter, that they had inspected the same accordingly, and that the Corporation, at their last meeting, had been pleased to take cognizance thereof, and had referred them to their own Auditors.

13. A Letter read from Mr. Wesley[3] [A. C. 317 also 321].

14. Ordered that the Secretary do communicate it to Mr. Dean of Chichester, and that he do write Mr. Wesley a present Answer, and another Letter to Mr. Smith of Gainsborough.

15. A Letter read from Mr. Johns, of Strowd [A. C. 318].

16. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an Answer

17. A Letter read from Mr. Harries, of Llantrissent [A. C. 314].

18. Ordered that George Howell's, Esq., be a Lay Correspondent for Bovile, near Cardiff, in Glamorganshire.

19. Ordered that the Secretary do write an answer to Mr. Harris.

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[1] These alterations were made necessary by formation of S.P.G.

[2] First meeting of the Corporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

[3] Rev. Samuel Wesley, Rector of Epworth, Lincolnshire, afterwards of Wroote, born about 1662; died 1735. Father of John and Charles Wesley. Author of "Dissertationes in Librum Jobi," &c. &c.

7 July, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Arch Deacon Trimnel, Mr. Arch Deacon Kennett, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Dr. Evans.

1. A Debate arising about altering the day of this Society's meeting.
2. Ordered that it be deferred till a fuller meeting.
3. Dr. Kennett made his Report of the Conference between him and Dr. Wake, pursuant to the Desires of this Society upon the 16th of June, and the Society acquiesc'd in Dr. Wake's opinion.
4. Resolved that a fitting number of the Prayers for Condemned Criminals be dispersed throughout the severall Circuits.
5. Ordered that the Secretary do take care to see this done.
6. Mr. Skeat and Mr. Gardner presenting to the Society a written account of their late Journey into the Countrey in order to disperse the Books and Papers for Reformation of manners,
7. Resolved that the Thanks of this Society be given to them for the same.
8. Mr. Skeat reported that there are 18 Boys ready to be discharged out of Aldgate School, and moved the Society for a small sum of money towards perfecting them in writing and Accompts.
9. Ordered that a Sum not exceeding five pounds be allowed the Agents upon that account.
10. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Hodges, the Chaplain Generall to the Fleete, be a Corresponding Member.
11. The Secretary reported the several Minutes relating to a Form, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.
12. Ordered that the Secretary do prepare a Draught of such a Form, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.
13. Ordered that the Consideration of the State of the Debt of Dr. Bray upon the acc[t] of the Plantations be adjourned to the next meeting
14. The Secretary presented his Report of the Alterations fitt to be made in the several Circular Letters.
15. Ordered that the said Report be read at next meeting.
16. Ordered that Mr. Paul Dudley be an Additional Correspondent for Boston in New England.

14 July, 1701.

Present: S[r] George Wheeler a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Dudley a Correspondent, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield.

1. Resolved that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr.

Bulstrode[1] for his late seasonable Vindication of the Religious Society meeting at St. Katherines.

2. Agreed that Mr. Serj[t] Hook be desired to speak to the Judges about disposing the Society's Papers design'd for the use of the Condemned Criminals.

3. The Secretary laid before the Society a Form of a Generall Subscription to the Charity Schools, which was read, and with some Amendments, approv'd.

4. Mr. Skeat reported that the Subscription to the School at St. Katherines is now raised to £68 per annum, and a Schoolmaster chosen.

5. A Debate arising about payment of part of the Debt due to Dr. Bray,

6. Resolved that upon the Account of the Smalness of the Number of the Members here present, it be referred to the next meeting, and then finally determined.

7. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do send a particular Summons for the absent Members to attend.

8. The Secretary reported the necessary Alterations to be made in the severall Circular Letters, w[ch] were agreed to by the Society.

9. A Letter read from Mr. Horton of Chaderton, wherein he promise's to promote the Erection of Lending Libraries.

10. Ordered that the Secretary do write him a Letter of Thanks, and send him 200 of the Vindication of Informers.

11. A Letter read from Mr. Shewell [A. C. 320].

12. Ordered that the Secretary doe write to Mr. Hodges, Chaplain Generall of the Fleet, about the method of dispersing the Society's Books and Papers amongst the Seamen.

21 July, 1701.

Present: Dr. Evans, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Torriano, the Governour of New England a Correspond[t], S[r] William Hustler, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, S[r] George Wheeler.

1. Mr. Skeat report's that the Subscriptions to the School at St. Catherine's are now arisen to £80 per annum.

2. Mr. Brewster reported that Mr. Holland accepts the Correspondency.

3. Agreed that the Secretary's Assistant have leave to goe into the Country upon extraordinary occasions.

4. Ordered that Mr. Hodges be desired to speak to Dr. Woodward to compose a small Tract for the use of the Souldiers.

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[1] The famous Dr. Sacheverell was one of the most bigoted opponents of the Religious Societies.

5. Resolved that Dr. Bray's Debt be reduced to £200 by the payment of such moneys as shall be first received by the Treasurer.

6. Resolved that what moneys Mr. Trymmer, or any other persons shall advance towards reducing Dr. Bray's Debt to £200, shall be repaid by this Society out of the next Quarterly Subscriptions.

7. Agreed that the Day of this Society's Meeting shall be Tuesday henceforward till the first Tuesday in November, and that the Secretary do notify the same to the absent members.

8. A Letter read from Mr. Gordon [A. C. 323].

9. Ordered that the Secretary doe write to Mr. Shewell.

10. A Letter read from Mr. Wesley [A. C. 321].

11. Ordered that the Secretary doe send him such a parcell of Papers as he shall think fitt.

5 August, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Melmouth.

1. A Letter read from Col. Nicholson, the Governor of Virginia, to Dr. Bray.

2. A Letter read from the Rev. Mr. Daniell Brett of North Carolina to Dr. Bray.

3. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. William Vesey of New York to Dr. Bray.[1]

4. The Translation of a Letter read from Mr. Elias Neau [A. C. 327 and 328].

5. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an Answer.

6. Ordered that 200 of each of those Papers and Books which Mr. Hodges caused to be translated into Dutch, be bought and delivered to Dr. Bray, to be sent to New York.[2]

7. Mr. Hodges reported that the Rev. Mr. Thorold accepted the Correspondence for Rotterdam.

8. Agreed that the Governor of New England, Dr. Harvey, and the Secretary, be desired to wait on the Lord Cornbury, in the name of this Society, and to desire him to promote their Christian Designs in his Province.

9. The Translation of a Letter read from Mr. Gelieu, the Dean of Neufchatel in Switzerland [A. C. 329].

10. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Binnes, accepting the Correspondence [A. C. 330].

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[1] These letters to Dr. Bray are not forthcoming.

[2] The Dutch retook New York in 1673, but surrendered it the following year to the English.

12 August, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Arch Deacon Kennet, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Seaman.

1. Mr. Hodges reported that the Reverend Dr. Woodward had actually begunn to write the Treatise for the use of the Souldiers.
2. Mr. Shute reported that he had been at Shipton Mallett, in Somersetshire, and that he had found a good disposition in severall of the Principal Inhabitants there to sett up a Society for Reformation of manners and a Charity School, and a monthly or quarterly Sermon.
3. Agreed that the Reverend Mr. Whitehand be a Correspondent for Shipton Mallett, in Somersetshire.
4. A Letter read from Mr. Thorold to Mr. Hodges [A. C. 334].
5. A Letter read from Mr. Tatam [A. C. 331].
6. A Letter read from Mr. Smithe, of Gainesborough, accepting the Correspondence [A. C. 332].
7. A Letter read from Mr. Harries, of Lantrissent [A.C. 333].
8. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Miles, of Boston, in New England, to Dr. Bray.[1]
9. A Letter read from the Vestry of Boston, in New Engl[d], to Dr. Bray.[1]

19 August, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. E. Killingworth be a Corresponding Member for Lilborn, near Daventry, in Northamptonshire.
2. Agreed that Mr. Hodges be desired to write to Mr. Thorold at Rotterdam a short Letter of Thanks.
3. A Letter read from the Lord Bishop of Chester [A. C. 324].
4. Ordered that the Secretary do write his Lordship a Letter of Thanks.
5. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Bennett, Commissary of Jamaica, together with the Resolves of the Society of Clergymen there [A. C. 325].
6. Ordered that the said Resolves be communicated to the Commissarys of Barbadoes and Virginia, and to Dr. Tod, of Carlisle.
7. Ordered that the Secretary and Dr. Evans do conferr with Brigadier Selwyn, Governor of Jamaica, & that they do communicate the said Resolves to him, with the request of this Society that he would favour their Christian Designs.
8. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Blaire, Commissary of Virginia, be a Correspondent for that Colony.

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[1] These letters to Dr. Bray are not forthcoming.

9. The Translation of a Letter read from Mr. De Berringhen, wherein he give's notice of his sending over (in pursuance of a Resolution of this Society) an hundred Accounts of Monsieur Vallon's Conversion [A. C. 326].

10. Also the Translation of Monsieur Benoit's Memorial[1] for the Preservation and Furtherance of Religion.

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[1] A Memorial for the Preservation and Furtherance of Religion, by Monsieur Benoit, Minister of Delft. It is certain that zeal for religion grows extreamly cold. The infinite disputes about Opinions and the Licenciousness of Innovators (who make problematical the most holy Truths) have every where occasion'd a certain Disgust for piety, which upon that account is now a days much decayd and very scarce.

This Loosness has passed from Doctrines to manners, and their is nothing more rare than the practice of Christian Virtues. The common people want Instruction, because they want the means of receiving it. Its being preached to them is not enough because to hear it they must go to look for it. They want some easy means, such as may Excuse them from Study and Meditation, such as may carry our Doctrine to their very doors, and in a manner insinuate it into them without their thinking on it. They who are above the common sort of people are not Free from this Accusation. There are but too many who have a Disgust or Aversion for the ordinary means that may procure it for them.

These Considerations have moved divers persons in different places, to seek such means as may prevent a greater Indifferency, and Stop the progress of a Remisnesse so very pernicious. Among others, those who Compose the society for England are the most Remarkable as well for their Number and Quality as for their Zeal and activity, and for the good Effects of their Diligence and application.—They seek Correspondences everywhere.

1. To Communicate to one another some advices, usefull for the Reformation of manners, and for the Restablishment of that Doctrine which is agreeable to piety.

2. For the Distribution of such small Books as are written to Instruct the people and Reanimate their Zeal. Their Desire ought not to be Rejected 1. Because it is most agreeable to the spirit of the Gospel and very worthy of Christian soules.

2. Because there is no real Inconveniency to be feared from the forming of such a Correspondence with them.

3. Because out of it there may arise much profitt by Reviving in mens hearts the principles of a good Life, and putting a Stop to the Disorders which are Occasioned through the Want of Instruction in most people, and the little sense they generally have of the Necessity and Importance of the Duty's of Religion.

4. Because instead of the Governments having reason to apprehend any ill Consequencies from thence nothing can be more advantageous to their inward quiet and the union of their Members that [than ?] their being [*sic*] how to live soberly and Godly, every good Christian being Necessarily a good Subject. Nay it is yett of Greater Necesity in these provinces than any where else.

1. Because as tis already observed, there are many persons of all orders who Neglect all the Dutys of Piety, whether they be public or domestick, as for Example abroad, sermons, Communion, Assemblys, and at home Lectures,

11. Ordered that the s[d] Letter, with the Memorial, be again read att a fuller meeting.

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prayers, &c. 2. Because Ordinary Means have not that Vigor that is requisite, whether it be upon the account of the Diversity of Sentiments, or that the Discipline is short and not sufficient to yield a Remedy to every thing, or because the authority of the Ecclesiastical Bodies is very much Limitted and the method of Censuring out of use. It cannot then but be to Introduce new Methods to supply what is wanting to the old, after a manner almost insensible without Rigour.

Therefore the proposed Correspondence may be very usefull and to forme it their is only required,

1. That sufficient persons be willing to associate themselves to Correspond with the like societies settled else where; to write to them, to receive their Letters, to Communicate to them Books of piety, fitted to the capacity of Every one, simple easy, moving and proper for an Instruction and Ediffication.

These persons must if possible add to Piety, Credit, weight, and Capacity, to give the more force to those Impressions which will proceede from them. Church Men may be excluded from it, whether it be least the Habit which most of them have acquired of Disputing upon everything should make them unproper for a work of peace, or that it is supposed the State will not be willing they should Correspond with Strangers.

Or if they be called to it as being most capable of Writing, such of them must be Chosen as have proper Qualifications, the Governments leave being first had, upon condition of giving them from time to time an account of what is done, and of some persons at the head of the Society who may be willing to Engage the Design of the Reformation of Manners.

2. That a Kind of Regular Councell be formed without preminence [*sic*] where every one may preside in his turn, and their Deliberations be registred by some appointed persons, who may be removed from time to time.

3. That there be some body Instructed with the Care of Receiving Letters and Advices, and give an account thereof.

4. That the Society may meet on certain Days and if it be Numerous, that then it may form a Smaller Assembly or a Committee composed of a Regulated Number before the meeting of a General one.

5. That there be a Small Fund established for the postage of Letters, and other Charges relating to the Society shall have approved of them [*sic*]. The Designs of the Society may be carry'd on further when we have seen what good effects it will produce at first.

There may be added to what has been said, about the advantages of such a Correspondence that if any one of the Societys established elsewhere should attempt to extend it self beyond the just bounds of its Design, as for Example to meddle with politicks, with the Government of Churches and with Ministry &c.—The Corresponding Societies may in such a Case be in a Condition to oppose the Undertakings of those that be Inclined to such Innovations.

26 August, 1701.

Present: Mr. Shute, Dr. Littel, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent.

1. Memorandum, the abovenamed Gentlemen, considering that they were not a Quorum of Resident Members, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

2 Septemb., 1701.

Present: Dr. Davies a Correspondent, Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, & Mr. Vernon.

1. Memorandum, the abovemention'd Gentlemen being not a quorum, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

9 Septemb., 1701.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Governor of New England a Correspondent, Mr. Vernon.

1. Memorandum, the above mentioned Gentlemen, not being a Quorum, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

16 Septemb., 1701.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Portman, who was admitted because recommended a Correspondent.

1. Memorandum, the abovemention'd Gentlemen, not being a quorum, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

23 Septemb., 1701.

Present: Dr. Kennett, Mr. Ibbott a Correspondent, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Brewster.

1. Memorandum, the abovemention'd Gentlemen, not being a Quorum, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

30 Septemb., 1701.

Present: Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Evans, Mr. Vernon, Dr. Slare.

1. Mr. Skeat reported that the School at St. Catherine's for fifty Boys was opened this day, about £80 per annum being subscrib'd thereunto.

2. The abovementioned Gentlemen thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

7 Octob., 1701.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne.

1. Memorandum, the abovenamed Gentlemen, not being a Quorum, adjourned to this day seavennight.

14 Octob., 1701.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bulstrode, the Governor of New England, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bromfield.

1. Agreed that the hundred accounts of Monsieur Vallon's Conversion lately sent over by Monsieur de Beringhen be bound at the rate of[1] a Book.

2. Mr. Bridges report's that a School in Covent Garden Parish for 50 Boys is just ready to be opened.

3. Also that he was informed that there was lately left a Legacy of £100 to the School in St. Martin's Parish.

4. Mr. Skeat reported that at Aldgate Church, a Quarterly Sermon being preach'd, there was collected £8. 10s.

5. Ordered that the absent members be summoned to attend at next meeting, in order to the payment of their Quarteridge, due at Michaelmas.

6. Mr. Shute reported that Dr. Woodward had finished his Practicall Discourse for the use of the Souldiers.[2]

7. Resolved that 5,000 of them be printed at the Charges of this Society.

8. A Letter read from Mr. Foster of Deverel [A. C. 335].

9. Ordered that the Secretary do return him a Letter of Thanks.

10. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Hodges, Chaplain Generall of the Fleet [A. C. 336].

11. Ordered that Mr. Shute do return him the Thanks of this Society.

12. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Smith of Kimbolton [A. C. 337].

13. Agreed that the Reverend Mr. Downes, Rector of Bing, be an additional Correspondent for Northamptonshire.

14. A Letter read from S[r] George Wheeler [A. C. 338].

15. A Letter read from the Rev[d] Mr. Johns of Stroud [A. C. 339].

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[1] No price given.

[2] This was "The Soldier's Monitor; being Serious Advice to Soldiers to behave themselves with a just Regard to Religion and true Manhood." The Seventh Edition. London: 1773.

16. A Letter read from S^r William Beeston, Governor of Jamaica, giving an account he had remitted tenn pounds for the use of the Society [A. C. 340].

17. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Arthur Bedford,[1] offering his Thoughts about reviving the Hebrew Language and Rabbinical Learning in England [A. C. 341].

18. Ordered that the Secretary do desire his Propsals.

19. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Todd of Cumberland [A. C. 342].

20. A Letter read from the Lord Bishop of Chester, recommending for Correspondents the Rev^d Mr. Lancaster, and Mr. Aldersey, a Layman [A. C. 343].

21. Resolved that they be Correspondents for Namptwich.

22. A Letter read from the Rev^d Mr. John Tatam of Sutton-on-the Hill [A. C. 344].

23. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Samuel Shaw of Warrington, in Lancashire, accepting the Correspondence [A. C. 345].

24. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. David Heart of Portsmouth [A. C. 346].

25. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Patrick Gordon [A. C. 347].

26. A Letter read from Mr. Ludolf from Rotterdam [A. C. 349].

27. The Translation of a Letter read from Monsieur Ostervalde of Neufchatel [A. C. 348].

28. Ordered that it be again read at next meeting.

29. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Vincent Edwards [A. C. 350].

30. Ordered that the Secretary do return him an Answer.

31. A Letter read from Mr. Blackbourn of Lancashire [A. C. 351].

32. A Letter read from the Rev^d Mr. Price of Wrexham [A. C. 352].

33. A Letter read from the Rev^d Mr. Deffray of New Romney [A. C. 354].

34. Resolved that the Reverend Mr. John Thomas, Vicar of New Romney, be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

21 October, 1701.

Present: Dr. Evans, Mr. Shute, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Bromhall a Correspondent.

1. Ordered that the Translation of Mr. De Beringhen's Letter [A. C. 326] and Mr. Benoit's Memorial be read at a fuller meeting.

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[1] Rev. Arthur Bedford, born 1668, died 1745, Vicar of Temple Church, Bristol. A good Oriental scholar, author of "The Scripture Chronology," &c.

2. Mr. Jacob Courtrise was approv'd of, and Mr. Hodges to desire his Attendance.

3. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. William Portman be an Additional Correspondent for Worcestershire.

4. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Lewis of Ackrise concerning the Rev[d] Dr. Thorpe.

5. A Letter read from the Honorable Mr. A. D. [Archdeacon] Booth [A. C. 353].

6. The Secretary reported that he had shew'd his Letter to his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury, who promised to write a Letter to the Lord Bishop of Durham, and thank him for his zeal in promoting a Reformation of manners in the City of Durham.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do signify this to Mr. Arch Deacon Booth.

8. A Letter read from Mr. Todd of Jamaica, with the Resolutions of the Society there [A. C. 355].[1]

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[1] Jamaica, N[r]. 27, 1700.—At a General Meeting of us the Clergie of this Island, who were called together at St. Jago de la Vega, at the Instance and Desire of the Reverend Philip Bennet, of Port-Royal, a Commissary, It was Resolv'd and Agreed upon,

1. That for the better Promotion and Encouragement of Piety, Virtue, and True Religion according to the Church of England, We be a Society for the Reformation of Manners, and the Propagating of Christian Knowledg in this Island: and that the rest of [our] Brethren the Clergie, who happen to be absent, may upon your Request be of a Society.

2. That none of our Resolutions be of any Force or Authority amongst our selves, before they have been Communicated and Consented to by His Excelency S[r] William Beeston, Cap[n]. Gen. and Governour in this Island our Chancellour and Lawfull Ordinary: and that we all humbly Request of His Excellency to be the Head of our Society.

3. That for the Future any Five of us of the Clergie shall be a Quorum, to determine of such Matters as shall lay [*sic*] before our Consideration for the carrying on this Pious and Excellent Design.

4. That such Magistrates and Gentlemen of this Island as will doe us the Honour to be of this Society, be also admitted.

5. That all Resolutions and Orders after [being] consented to by His Excellency, shall be fairly transcrib'd into a Book, by Tho. Todd, Rector of St. Thomas in the Vale, whom we now constitute the Secretary of this Society.

6. That the Clergie of this Island now Associated, do meet at Spanish Town on the first day of each Grand Court, to consult about such Methods as may be most proper for the carrying on a Genl. Reformation: and that nothing be agreed upon by us, which is not Conformable to the Canons of the Church of England.

7. That every Minister in his respective Parish shall Endeavour to [stir up?] those, who are of best Ability, to contribute towards the providing Christian Monitors and Familiar Guides, as well as for the poor as the rest of his parishioners: and that he report the success of his Endeavours at the next Meeting.

8. That every one of us in particular shall use his best Endeavours to Reform

9. Ordered that the Secretary do write a Letter of Thanks to Mr. Commissary Bennett & Mr. Todd.

10. Ordered that notice be given to the Members of this Society, that henceforwards (upon account of the shortness of the days) the Society will meet at half an hour after 3 o'Clock.

28 October, 1701.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, Mr. Shute, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Courtrise, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Bromhall a Correspondent, Mr. Brewster.

1. Ordered that 30 Accounts of Mr. Vallon's Conversion be sent to Mr. A. D. Booth, A. D. Entwistle, & Mr. Taylor of Wigan, to be dispers'd among the Popish Gentry according to their Discretion.

2. Ordered that the Secretary do enquire whether there be a Chaplain Generall of the English Army.

3. The Translation of Monsieur Ostervald's Letter was again read [*see* above].

4. Ordered that the Secretary do draw up an Answer, & bring it to the Society at next meeting.

5. A Debate arising about the Debt still due to Dr. Bray,

6. Resolv'd that from henceforwards the usuall Subscriptions to the Plantations shall cease.[1]

7. Agreed that a new Form of Subscription towards the discharge of the said Debt be drawn up by the Secretary against the next meeting, which shall always lye on the table.

8. Mr. Gardiner report's that at St. Margarett's Westminster there is a new order of Vestry made, whereby the Parish have assigned a Room for a Work House for the Poor Children of that Parish.

9. Ordered that the Secretary doe bring to the next meeting a List of Imperfect Minutes.

10. Mr. Gardiner report's that the Subscription for the Boys' School at St. Sepulchres amounts to £120 per annum.

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all Irreligious living and Dissolute practices within his respective parish ; and in Order thereunto shall provide himself of a Book of statutes revised as we are informed by the Parliaments of this present Reign.

I doe approve of this method proposed by the Clergie of this Island for the propagating of Religion, and the Reformation of Immorality.

PHIL. BENNET. JOHN MOODIE.
ROB^t. FULTUM. ED. GREEN.
RIC. TALOR. ED. STEAD.

S^t. Jago, *Nov.* 29, 1700.
W^m. BEESTON.

THOMAS TODD. Copia vera.

[1] This was owing to the formation of S.P.G.

11. Translation of Mr. Scherer's Letter to Mr. Chamberlayne was read [A. C. 356].

12. As also Translation of the Letter of Messieurs Peter Zeller, Otto Grass, and John Rudolf Wetiknius to Mr. Hales.

13. Ordered that the Secretary do write Mr. Scherer an Answer.

4 Novemb., 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S[r] John Philips, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Kennett, Dr. Slare, Mr. Stamp a Correspondent, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Wright.

1. Ordered that Mr. Stamp be an Additional Lay Correspondent for Barkshire, being propos'd by Mr. Shute.

2. Ordered that 25 of the Souldiers Monitors be distributed amongst the Generall Officers of his Majesty's Army.

3. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant doe prepare an Alteration for the Circular Letters relating to the Propagation of the Gospel in America, & that he do bring it to the Society at next meeting.

4. The Copy of the Letter to Mr. Ostervald was read, and some Amendments order'd to be made.

5. The Form of Subscription for the discharging the Debt due to Dr. Bray was read.[1]

6. Order'd that the farther Consideration of this matter, together with the said Form of Subscription, bee referred to a Committee, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Friday at 3 o'clock.

7. Order'd that Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Comyns, & Dr. Slare be that Committee.

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[1] The Form of Subscriptions for Raising the Money due to Dr. Bray upon Account of the Plantations.

Wereas there remains due to the Reverend Dr. Tho. Bray the sum of two Hundred pounds sterling, part of a greater sum by him advanced upon the Credit of public Benefactions towards the propagation of Christian Knowledg on the Continent of North America.

And Whereas it does fully appear to this society that the said sums of money have been really and Bona fide expended by the said Dr. Bray upon the said Account, particularly, that Divers Ministers have been sent over and that many Parochial Libraries have been fixed in the Plantations on the said Continent: And lately, Whereas the Society has thought fit to sink the subscriptions for the plantations (to which all their Members were obliged to subscribe upon admittance) by Reason that that Branch of their Designs is determined, His Majesty having been graciously pleas'd by Letters patents under the Great Seal of England to Incorporate a Society for the Propagation of the Gospell in Foreign Parts, of which most of the Gentlemen of this Society are Members:

We whose Names are under-written, in Order to the Discharging the said sum of two Hundred pounds do hereby promise to pay into the Hands of our Treasurer for the time being the severall sums to our severall names annex'd,

8. Resolved that the Share in the Mine Adventure[1] given to this Society by Mr. Ibbott, for promoting Christian Knowledge in the Plantations, and which is now in the hands of Mr. Hodges, be forthwith sold, and the money it produce's paid by the Treasurer to Dr. Bray towards discharging the Debt due to him.

9. A Letter read from Mr. Todd [A. C. 355].

10. Ordered that the Secretary do return him an Answer.

11. Resolved that for the better Dispatch of the Affairs of this Society, one of the Resident Members be nominated for Chairman at the beginning of every month, who is to oblige himselfe to attend every meeting at the usuall hour, and in case of any just Impediment to appoint his Deputy for that time out of the Resident Members.

12. Resolved that the Right Honourable the Lord Guilford be the first Chairman.

13. Agreed that the Standing Orders be read at the next meeting in the first place.

11 November, 1701.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Shute, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Seaman.

1. Resolved that that Resolution taken by this Society att the last meeting about choosing a new Chairman every month be entred amongst the Standing Orders of this Society.

2. Resolved that these words in the 8th Standing Orders of this Society, viz., "And alsoe for Promoting Parochial Librarys in America for the same purpose, the last of which Subscriptions is to be paid upon admission," be vacated.

3. The Secretary presented a List of the Imperfect Minutes, which were ordered to be considered at next meeting.

4. The Secretary produced a Draught of a Letter in answer to Mr. Scherer of Neufchatel, w^{ch} was read and approved.

5. Ordered that it be sent to Mr. Scherer, with a Copy of his Majesty's Charter for Incorporating a Society for Propagating the Gospell in Foreign Parts.

6. Ordered that Mr. Vernon and the Secretary do distribute the 25 Seaman's Monitors among the Generall Officers of his Majesty's Army.

7. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Woodward for his Care and Pains in compiling that Pious Treatise.

8. Ordered that the Secretary do signify this to the Doctor.

9. Ordered that a Copy of the Form of the General Subscription to Schools be delivered to Mr. Trymmer.

10. The Secretary reported that the Committee mett according to order, and that they agreed to the new Form of Subscription, only striking out the word (immediately).

11. Also that Dr. Bray having charged the Society with £53. 7s. 6d. for procuring a Grant of an Arrears of Taxes due to his Majesty from

[1] See foot-note, p. 31.

Hollingshead and Adderley, which Grant being obtained and found to be of little Benefitt, he Sold it and quits the Society of the s[d] sum of £53. 7s. 6d.

12. Also that the Share in the Mine Adventure which Mr. Ibbott gave to the Society was sold to Dr. Bray for £20. 10s., which is the currant Price.

13. Ordered that the farther Consideration of what remains due to Dr. Bray be referred to the aforesaid Committee to meet this day seavennight at 3 o'Clock at Mr. Serjeant Hook's.

14. Ordered that the same Gentlemen who composed the last Com[tee], or any 3 of them be this Com[tee].

15. Ordered that the Letter to Mr. Ostervald be translated into French and sent forthwith.

18 November, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, S[r] John Philips, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Torriano, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Courtris, Mr. Serj[t] Hook.

1. The Secretary Reported that the Lord Guilford informed him that some Extraordinary Business calling him into the Country, he had desired him to discharge his Duty to the Society as Chairman the remaining part of the month.

2. Ordered that that Paragraph in the Circular Letters relating to the propagating Christian Knowledge in the Plantations be omitted in those Copies that shall be taken of it for the future, there being a Corporation establisht by his Majesty for that purpose.[1]

3. S[r] William Beeston and the Rev[d] Mr. Hodges approv'd.

4. Ordered that the Hon[ble] Col. Morris be a Correspondent for East Jersey.

5. S[r] John Philips reported that he had lately received a Letter sign'd by 31 Divines and Lay Gentlemen, some of them Correspondents with this Society, desiring the L[d] Arch Bishop of Canterbury to issue out his Circular Letter to the Clergy of the Diocess of St. Davids enjoyning them upon all occasions to excite the Gentry to promote the Erection of Charity Schools, the Catechising of Youth, & Family Devotion at least twice a day.

6. Also that his Grace had been pleased to promise to issue out such a Circular Letter within a Fortnight.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do return the Thanks of this Society to the said worthy and Reverend Gentlemen for their pious zeal and care in this Affair.

8. Mr. Hodges reported that the Committee mett according to order and finished the State of Dr. Bray's debt, w[ch] they found,

[1] The S.P.G.

including Mr. Trymmer's £30, Mr. Bromfield's £20, and half a year's Interest, to amount to £200, to w^ch Report the Society agreed.

9. A Debate arising about the Subscription to Schools in generall,

10. Ordered that it be the main Business consider'd at next meeting.

11. Ordered that the Letters be read at next meeting in the first place.

25 November, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r John Philips, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Melmouth, the Rev^d Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, Mr. Serj^t Hook.

1. Ordered that the Consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be deferred till next meeting.

2. The Secretary reported that Mr. Vernon and he agreed to present 15 of the Soldiers Monitors to the Earle of Marlborough[1] by Dr. Willis, and the ten others to the Lord Cutts by Col. Dudley, in order to be communicated to the rest of the Officers of his Majesty's Army.

3. Ordered that the 5,000 Souldier's Monitors be lodged with the Reverend Mr. Thorold att Rotterdam til farther Advice be given him touching their Distribution.

4. Mr. Hodges reported that he had lodged 300 Souldier's Monitors (whereof 50 were his own Gift) by direction of his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury, with the L^d Lucas, for the benefitt of his Ma^tys^ Souldiers in the Tower.

5. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Frank of Cranfield [A. C. 357].

6. Ordered that that part of it which relates to the School for Poor Children be copyed and lye upon the Table.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do write Mr. Frank an Answer, and with the Thanks of the Society to desire him to explain his Method in reference to the work which the Poor Children in his Parish are Employ'd in.

8. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Portman accepting the Correspondence [A. C. 358].

9. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Vincent Edwards of Alnwick [A. C. 359].

10. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an answer.

11. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Killingworth concerning two Papers of his which he desire's may be printed [A. C. 360].

12. Ordered that one of them be referred to the Reverend Mr. Hodges and the other to Mr. Shute, who are desired to give their opinion concerning them.

13. A Letter read from A. Deacon Booth [A. C. 361].

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[1] The famous John Churchill, afterwards Duke of Marlborough, born 1650, died 1720.

14. Ordered that the Copies of those Letters from Mr. Hales w^ch^ he wants be communicated to him.

15. A Letter read from Mr. Smith of Gainesborough [A. C. 362].

16. A Letter read from Mr. Bynns of Cheadle [A. C. 363].

17. A Letter read from Mr. Shaw of Warrington.[1]

18. Resolved that this Society will engage in no new Expenses that shall be considerable till their Debts be discharg'd.

19. Agreed that the Rev^d^ Mr. Frank be desired to draw up a new account of the Designs and Proceedings of this Society.

20. Ordered that the Secretary do draw up a Preamble for the Trustees to sign, who are to take care of the Generall Subscriptions to Schools, and that he doe lay it before the Society at next meeting.

21. The Agents were desired to lay before the Society a Scheme or Method for the Management of the Trust of Charity Schools in Generall.

2 December, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Kennett, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Shute, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Rev^d^ Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, L^d^ Bishop of Chichester, Mr. Nelson.

1. The Reverend Mr. Stubbs approv'd.

2. Resolv'd that instead of the 5,000 Soldier's Monitors design'd by this Society to be sent to Rotterdam for the use of the English Army in Holland, there be sent over 3,000 Souldiers Monitors and 3,000 of the Pastoral Letters.

3. Ordered that an Extract be made out of the Journal of this Society wherein may be seen at one view, in what manner this Society ha's disposed of the severall Sums raised by them.

4. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do lay such an Extract before the Society at next meeting.

5. Mr. Skate reported that at St. Ann's, Aldersgate, there is £25 per annum subscrib'd towards a School for Boys.[2]

6. The Imperfect Minutes being taken into consideration, according to order,

7. Ordered that Mr. Serj^t^ Hook do acquaint Mr. Martin that he is chosen a Member of this Society.

8. Also that the Secretary do acquaint Mr. Railton of his being chosen a Member.

9. Agreed that Dr. Woodward be understood to be a Correspondent Member of this Society.

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[1] Though the letters are indexed from No. 1 to No. 1,313, the MS. book is filled in only to No. 363, the remainder being wanting. The next volume of the Abstract of Correspondence begins at No. 1,309, under date of June 11, 1708.

[2] This was the foundation of the Royal Asylum of St. Anne's Society, whose schools are now at Redhill, Surrey.

10. Agreed that Dr. Lucas be excused his Attendance, by reason of his great Avocations and want of Sight.

11. Ordered that Mr. Serjeant Hook & Mr. Hodges be desired to acquaint Dr. Cox with his being chosen a Member of this Society.

12. Agreed that Dr. Knight be understood to be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

13. Ordered that a List of the Correspondents be laid before the Society at next meeting.

14. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Hodges be desired to bring to the next meeting a large Mapp of England.

15. Resolved that the further consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be adjourned til next Meeting.

16. Resolved that during the Winter Season this Society will meet here on Mondays at half an hour past 3 o'Clock.

17. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do give notice of this Alteration to the absent Members.

18. Mr. Killingworth's Papers having been perused,

19. Ordered that the Secretary do write him a Letter of Thanks and acquaint him that there have been already published many excellent Treatises upon the same subject, which make's these not so necessary to carry on the Designes of this Society.

20. Ordered that 50 Seaman's Monitors, 100 Pastoral Letters, 100 Christian's Daily Devotions, 100 Papers against Swearing & Drunkenness be sent to Mr. Vernon for the Use of the Seamen in the Mary Galley.

21. The Preamble for the Trustees to the General Subscriptions to Charity Schools was read, and with some Amendments approv'd of.

22. A Letter read from Mr. Frank.

23. Ordered that all the Papers he wants be sent him.

24. A Letter read from Mr. Lewis of Ackryse.

25. A Letter read from Mr. Bedford of Bristol in which was enclosed a specimen of the Harmony of the Oriental Languages.

26. Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Chichester be desired to answer the said Letter.

8 December, 1701.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Gordon a Correspondent, S^{r} John Philips, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Serjeant Hook, the Rev^{d} Mr. Hodges, Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Vernon, Dr. Slare.

1. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant have Leave to goe into the Country for 3 weeks upon extraordinary occasions.

2. Ordered that he have Leave to carry a Packett along with him.

3. William Carter of Kempson, in Bedfordshire, being Recommended to this Society as a proper object of their Charity and Com-

passion, and having suffered very much for his zeal in Promoting Reformation of manners,

4. Ordered that the Treasurer do give him 40s. as a Gift from this Society.

5. Mr. Vernon reported that he had received the Books and Papers for the use of the Seamen on board the Mary-galley, and that he had taken care to have them dispersed accordingly.

15 December, 1701.

Present: Lord Guilford, the Dean of Chichester, Mr. Shute, the Reverend Mr. Hodges, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Lloyd.

Mr. Vernon in the Chair.

1. Mr. Vernon reported that S^{r} John Philips having been chosen Chairman for the Ensuing month, and being obliged to goe out of Town had desired him to supply his Place in his Absence.

2. An Extract of all the Sums raised by the Society was produced, but being Imperfect it was referred to the Consideration of Mr. Serjeant Hook and Mr. Shute.

3. Ordered that Mr. Vernon be desired to bring a List of the Forts and Garrisons in England against next meeting in order to dispose the Remaining Part of the Souldiers Monitors among them.

4. Ordered that the Consideration of the List of Correspondents be referred to Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Melmouth, & Mr. Brewster, or any two of them, and that they Report their opinion thereof as soon as they can conveniently.

5. The Agents for Schools presented their Scheme or Proposals for the raising and managing of Charitable Contribution to Schools in generall were read.

6. Ordered that the further consideration thereof be adjourned to the next meeting.

7. Ordered that the farther consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be farther adjourned to the next meeting.

8. Mr. Lloyd read part of a Letter from Mr. Portman, one of the Correspondents for Worcestershire, acquainting him that he had lately Erecting a Religious Society in his neighbourhood, and desired a few of the Society's Books and Papers to be dispersed among them.

9. Ordered that the Treasurer do send to the said Mr. Portman a few of those Papers at discretion.

10. Mr. Vernon moved the Society for a few Papers to be distributed among the poor Prisoners of the Marshalsea.

11. Ordered that 100 of the little Tracts call'd the Christian's Way to Heaven be delivered to Mr. Vernon on the said acc^{t}.

12. Mr. Shute report's that he ha's sent away to Holland, according to the order of the Society, the 300 Souldier's Monitors & other Papers.

22 December, 1701.

Present: S[r] John Philips, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Serjeant Hook (Mr. Gordon, Mr. Keith Correspondents), Dr. Bray, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Trymmer, the Dean of Chichester, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Lloyd.

S[r] John Philips in the Chair.

1. Mr. Hodges laid before the Society the Translation of the Seaman's Monitors and Souldiers Monitors into low Dutch.

2. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Berringhen the Correspondent at the Hague, & Recommend the Printing and Dispersing of them amongst the Dutch Seamen & Souldiers.

3. Ordered that Mr. Frank, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Comyns, and the Secretary be added to the Committee that are to consider of the Correspondence.

4. The Debate concerning the Generall Subscriptions to Schools being resumed,

5. And the Agents Proposals concerning the said Subscriptions being again read,

6. Agreed that no person be a Trustee to the General Subscriptions for Schools unless he now be, or shall be hereafter, a Residing Member or Corresponding Member of this Society.

7. Ordered that the Agents Proposals be amended, pursuant to the aforesaid Resolution.

8. A Letter from the L[d] Bishop of Chichester to Mr. Wanley, concerning Mr. Bedford's Letter, was read.

9. Ordered that Mr. Wanley do make use of it in answer to Mr. Bedford's Letter.

10. Mr. Hales's Letter from St. Gall being laid before the Society,

11. Ordered that the said Letter be read at the next meeting, after the Reading of the first day's Minutes.

29 December, 1701.

Present: S[r] William Hustler, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Frank, the Reverend Mr. Hodges, Mr. Gordon a Correspondent, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Trymmer, S[r] John Philips, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Stubbs, Col. Colchester.

S[r] John Philips in the Chair.

1. Mr. Serjeant Hook presented the Extract of all the Sums disbursed by the Society as corrected by himselfe and Mr. Shute.

2. Ordered that the said Paper be farther referred to Dr. Bray.

3. The Consideration of the Imperfect Minutes being resumed,

4. Ordered that the Secretary do write to S[r] Richard Bulkeley about the £20 per annum which he promis'd in a Letter to Dr. Bray

to appropriate to the Promoting of Christian Knowledge in the Plantations.

5. Ordered the Secretary do bring to the next Meeting the Scheme for the Regulations of Abuses in Prisons.

6. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do enter an account of all Gifts to the Society into the Treasurer's Book.

7. Ordered that the Consideration of a Correspondent for Cambridgeshire be referred to the Committee for the Correspondents.

8. Ordered that the farther Consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be adjourned to next Meeting.

9. Mr. Hales's Letter of the 26 Novemb. from St. Gall was read.

10. Ordered that the Secretary cause to be transcribed those Passages out of the said Letter relating to the Lord Bishop of London against to morrow morning.

11. Ordered that the Lords the Bishops that are members of this Society, together with the Lord Guilford and Mr. Comyns, be desired to communicate to the Lord Bishop of London the said Transcripts, if they shall think convenient.

12. Agreed that Mr. William Brockman, of Beach Borough near Hythe, be a Lay Correspondent for that part of Kent, being recommended by Mr. Shute.

13. Agreed that Mr. Vernon be the Chairman of the Society for the Ensuing month.

5 Januar., 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Vernon, Dr. Manningham, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Trymmer, Arch Deacon Kennett, Col. Colchester, Mr. Frank, Dr. Jephcott a Correspondent, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Vernon in the Chair.

1. Mr. Benoit's Memorial[1] for promoting Religion was read.

2. Ordered that the Secretary doe acquaint Mr. De Beringhen that the Society very much approved of the said Memoriall, & desires to receive a farther account of their Success in that matter.

3. A Memoriall relating to the Setting up a School in the Village of East Hagborn in Barkshire, was presented by Dr. Manningham and read.

4. Resolved that a Summ not exceeding two pounds be allow'd by this Society towards the raising the said School for one year only.

5. An account of the Estate of Mr. William Malthus, Citizen of London, lately deceased, given to the poor Inhabitants of the Village of Blewberry in Barkshire, and of the distribution of the Same by the Lord Bishop of Sarum was read.

6. And the Reverend Mr. Heres Minister of Blewberrry attending,

[1] See foot-note p. 145.

gave a farther account of the said Charity and of the State of the Villages of Blewberry and Hagborn.

7. The Agents for Schools attending,

8. And their Proposals relating to Schools in Generall being again read,

9. As also the Form of Subscription for the Trustees,

10. And a long Debate arising thereupon,

11. Ordered that this matter be referred to a Com^{tee}.

12. Ordered that Col. Colchester, Mr. Frank, Dr. Bray, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Shute, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Melmouth, or any three of them, be the s^{d} Com^{tee}.

13. Ordered that the said Committee doe meet on Thursday next at 4 o'Clock at this Place.

12 Januar., 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Vernon, Dr. Willis, Dean of Lincoln, M^{r}. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Frank, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Bray, Mr. Lloyd Mr. Nevil, S^{r} John Philips, Col. Colchester.

Mr. Vernon in the Chair.

1. The Scheme for the Regulations of Prisons was read

2. Ordered that the Consideration of the Abuses of the Prisons be adjourned to the next meeting.

3. Ordered that Mr. Stubbs do bring to the next meeting a Copy of Dr. White's Will relating to Prisons.

4. Ordered that a Committee be appointed to visit the Apartm^{ts} of the Prisoners in Newgate.

5. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Frank, and Mr. Hodges, or any two of them be that Committee, and that they make their Visitation next Saturday morning, and report the Same at the next meeting.

6. Ordered that the Committee for Correspondences doe meet at this place on Saturday next at 3 in the Afternoone.

7. Ordered that the Consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be adjourned to this day fortnight.

8. Ordered that the Members of this Society that are Members of Parliament be desired to attend at the next meeting, upon the account of the Consideration of the Abuses in Prisons.

9. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant doe prepare a Copy of Mr. Hales's last Letter.

10. A Draught of a Second Account of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge was read.

11. Ordered that a Committee be appointed to peruse and finish the said Account.

12. Ordered that Mr. Serjeant Hook, S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Bray, or any two of them, be the said Committee, and that they meet at their own Convenience.

13. Ordered that Mr. Francis Windham of Cloverwall, near Covert, be an additional Lay Correspondent for Gloucestershire, being recommended by Colonel Colchester.

14. Ordered that Mr. William Juice, Rector of Birch Morton [? Birts-Morton], be an additional Correspondent for Worcestershire, being recommended by Mr. Frank.

15. The Report of the Committee for Schools was read, as also a new Form of Subscription, and both were agreed to, and

16. Ordered that a Copy of the said Form of Subscription be delivered to the Agents for Schools.

17. Ordered that all the Members of this Society that live within the Walls of the City be desired to give their Advice and Assistance to the Agents in promoting the Said Subscriptions.

18. Mr. Michel report's that there were two Sermons preach'd yesterday at St. Margaret's, Westminster, by the Dean of Chichester and Dr. Birch upon the Subject of Charity Schools, and that about £40 was collected at the Church Doors upon that occasion.

19. Ordered that the Secretary do prepare a new List of all the Members of this Society in order to form them into Select Committees.

20. Mr. Vernon presented a List of all the Garrisons in England amounting to 49 Troops and Companies.

21. Ordered that the said List be referred to Mr. Shute in order to proportion the Distribution of the Souldier's Monitor and other Books among them.

22. A Letter read from Arch. D. Booth desiring the Society to prepare an Address to be presented to the Bench of Justices at Durham against the next Sessions.

23. Ordered that it be referred to Serjeant Hook to draw up such an Address as is desired.

19 Januar., 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Bray, Mr. Frank, Dr. Hutchinson a Correspondent, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Gerrard, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Jephcott a Correspondent, Mr. Seaman, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair, during the absence of Mr. Vernon.

1. Mr. Gerard approv'd, and Mr. Hodges to desire his attendance.

2. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Acres be a Correspondent for Blewberry in Berkshire, being recommended by Mr. Chamberlayne.

3. Ordered that for the future, upon the appointing any Committee, those who are nominated to be of that Committee be apprized in writing of the Occasion, Time, and Place of their meeting.

4. Mr. Chamberlayne acquainted the Society that the King having nominated Mr. Vernon his Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Den-

mark, he had desired to continue his Subscription to the Society, and to maintain a Correspondence with the same.

5. Ordered that Dr. Bray and the Secretary do return him the Thanks of this Society for his generous offerr, and also for his intended kindness to Mr. Hales their Correspondent.

6. Resolved that each new Member at his Admission doe subscribe towards the Payment of the Debt due to Dr. Bray, till the said Debt be entirely sunk and paid off.

7. Ordered that this Resolution be Entred among the Standing Orders of this Society.

8. Resolved that for the easier Dispatch of the affairs of this Society a Messenger be entertained, at a Sallary not exceeding £10 per annum.

9. Ordered that William Carter of Kempston in Bedfordshire be that Messenger.

10. An Extract out of Dr. White's Will relating to the Prisoners in New Gate, was read.

11. Dr. Bray and Mr. Stubbs reported from the Committee appointed to visitt the Appartments of the Prisoners, that they had been there and viewed many of the said appartments, and would go thither again for the same purpose on Wednesday next.

12. Also that being affected with the Sight of so many miserable objects of Pity, they had thought fitt to distribute some moneys amongst them, as also the Servants.

13. Ordered that the said Committee be allowed their Charges, and as much more money to be distributed amongst the Poor Prisoners, &c., at their next visitation as will amount to 40s., besides such Books and Papers of this Society as they shall judge proper.

14. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Lorrain, Ordinary of Newgate, be a Correspondent with this Society, being recommended by the above written Gentlemen.

15. Mr. Serjeant Hook reported from the Committee for Correspondencies that they had made some Progress in that matter, and desired to meet again at this place on Friday at 3 o'Clock.

16. Mr. Shute presented a Scheme for the Numbers of Books and Papers necessary to supply the Soldiers and Officers in the English Garrisons.

17. Ordered that 639 Souldier's Monitors, together with a Sum not exceeding Seaven pound, be allowed him for this Purpose.

18. Agreed that the manner of Distribution of Books and Papers be referred to the Committee for Correspondences.

19. A Letter read from the Reverend Mr. Shaw.

20. A Letter read from Mr. John Stamp, in which was Enclosed a Draught of a new Act for Suppressing Vice & Immorality.

21. Ordered that it be referred to the Consideration of the Society for Reformation of Manners, and that Mr. Stamp be advertized thereof.

22. A Letter read from Mr. Arch. D. Entwistle.

23. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an Answer, and that he do transmitt to him a Dozen Addresses to those of the Romish Communion.

24. Mr. Serjeant Hook presented a proposal about Schools.

25. Ordered that it be read at next meeting.

26 Januar., 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Willis, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Gerard, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Nevil, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. A. D. Kennett, Mr. Frank, Mr. Loyd, Lord Guilford.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair, during the absence of Mr. Vernon.

1. Ordered that the farther Consideration of the Imperfect Minutes be referred to the next meeting.

2. Ordered that it be an Instruction to the Committee appointed to peruse the new Account of this Society that they do take care that notice be taken of the Books and Papers distributed amongst the Prisoners in Newgate, and in the several Circuits.

3. Mr. Chamberlayne presented the List of the Resident Members.

4. Ordered that the Secretary's Assistant do compleat it, and bring 2 or 3 copies of it to the next meeting.

5. Agreed that the Messenger to this Society have an Order Sign'd by the Secretary and Treasurer to receive the Quarterly Subscriptions from the Residing Members as they become due.

6. Ordered that the Committee for Prisons be desired to meet together, and putt down their thoughts in writing concerning the Abuses of Prisons, and their Remedies, and that they doe report the same together with an account of their Visitation, at the next meeting.

7. Ordered that 20s. be allowed the Prison at White Chappell in money and Books, to be distributed by the Treasurer according to his Discretion.

8. Mr. Serjeant Hook reported that he had acquainted the Society for the Reformation of Manners with the Desires of Mr. Arch. D. Booth concerning an Address or Presentment to the Justices of the Peace, and that they would take care of it.

9. Mr. Shute's List was again read, and the Society agreed by what hands to disperse their Books and Papers amongst the Soldiers in the English Garrisons.

10. Ordered that Mr. Vernon be desired to procure a List containing the number of Officers and Soldiers in his Majesty's Horse and Foot Guards, and that it be laid before the Society at next meeting.

11. Dr. Bray reported that the Committee had perused the New Account of this Society, and after some Corrections did approve of it.

12. Ordered that the said account, after that the Clause relating to Prisons be inserted into it, be forthwith printed.

13. Agreed that the number to be printed be three thousand.

14. A Letter from the Reverend Mr. Cleveland to Mr. Lloyd.

15. Ordered that he be a Correspondent for Dudley in Staffordshire, being recommended by Mr. Lloyd.

16. Ordered that the Lord Bishop of Worcester, upon the account of his Lordship's great Subscription to the Corporation, as also of the great Numbers of Books continually distributed in his Diocess, be allowed to dispose of £10 in the Societies Books yearly, being part of his Subscription, according as his Lordship shall think fitt.

17. The Form of Subscription was brought in by the Agents for Schools, and read.

18. Ordered that the Proposals about Schools, and the other Letters that remain unread, be deferred till the next meeting, and read immediately after the first Reading of the Minutes.

2 Februar., 1701-2.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. J^no^ Hodges Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Stubbs.

Mr. Vernon in the Chair.

1. A Proposal was read concerning the Education & Employing poor Children.

2. Ordered that Mr. Serjeant Hook doe lay it before those Gentlemen appointed by the House of Commons, as a Committee, to inspect the Laws relating to the Poor.

3. A Letter read from Mr. Taylor of Wigan thereupon.

4. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, and Mr. Chamberlayne do give the Thanks of this Society to the Lord Bishop of Chester for his great care and pains in promoting the Designs of this Society in his Diocess, and that they do desire his Lordship to print his late Excellent Sermon and Visitation Charge, or that he would permitt this Society to do it at their own Charges.

5. Ordered that that part of Mr. Taylor's Letter relating to Lending Libraries be referred to a Committee, and that it be an Instruction to that Committee to consider of Dr. Bray's Proposalls for sinking the Debt due to him, & to receive some other Proposalls from him for the more effectual Promoting of Lending Libraries.

6. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Frank, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, or any three of them, be that Committee, and that they do meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Friday at 3 o'Clock.

7. A Letter read from Mr. A. D. Booth, together with the Presentment of the Grand Inquest of Durham at the last Sessions there.[1]

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[1] Robert Boothe Clerk, M^r^ of Arts, Arch Deacon of the Archdeaconry of Durham: To all singular persons, Vicars, Curates, within the Archdeaconry aforesaid of Durham, sendeth Greeting Whereas Catechising or Instructing

8. Ordered that it be referred to the abovementioned Committee to make an Extract out of it, to be incerted in the publick Prints.

Children and others, the youth of every parish, publickly in the Church, in the Fundamental Principles of Christian Religion, is a matter of great concernment and Consideration, and doth much tend to possess their minds with the knowledge and love of God and treue goodness, and to train them up to the practice of vertue and the detestation of Atheism and Debauchery in their riper years; and Likewise is of great use and advantage to others (who are arriv'd to years of Discretion or understanding) that are present at such Catechizing, and sharers thereof. And whereas by the Rubrick of the Booke of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacrements, according to the use of the Church of England (which was established and confirmed by an Act of Parliament made in the year of his Majestie King Charles the second;) it is appointed and required that the Curate or Minister of every parish shall diligently upon Sundaies or Holydaies, after the Second Lesson at Evening Prayers, openly in the Church, instruct and examine the young people of his parish that are sent to him in some part of the Catechism set forth in the aforesaid Booke of Common Prayer: and that all Fathers, Mothers, Masters, and Dames shall cause their children, servants, and apprentices which have not appointed [*sic*], and obediently to hear and be ordered by the Curate or Minister, of the place where they live, untill such a time as they have Learned all that is appointed them in the said Catechism. And whereas before that, to wit, by the Canons and Constitutions Ecclecial in force which were made by the Bps. and Clergy of the province of Canterbury in their Synod holden at London in the year of our Lord God 1603, and afterwards confirm'd by his (then) Majestie King James the first, by his Letters Patents under the Great Seal of England; and by him therein strictly commanded to be kept by all his subjects both within the province of Canterbury and York, in all points wherein they did or might concern them or any of them, it is directed, appointed, and decreed, that if any Fathers, Mothers, Masters, or Mistresses, Children, Servants, or Apprentices, shall neglect their Duties with reference to the being Catechised or instructed publickly in the church (that is to say, if the said Fathers, Mothers, Masters, Mistresses, shall be neglegent in not causing their Children, Servants, and Apprentices to come to the Church to be Catechised; or the said Children, Servants, and Apprentices, or any of them, shall neglect or refuse to come to Church and learn their Catechism), that then and in such case all the said persons respectively offending (excepting children) shall be suspended from admision into the Church, by their respective Bishops or other ordinaires, &c.; if they so persist by the space of a month they shall then be excommunicated. We therefore Arch Deacon aforesaid having regard to the said Rubrick of the Book of Common Prayer and the Canons and Constitutions Ecclical aforesaid concerning Catechising; do hereby strictly require and command you the Parsons, Vicars, and Curates of the Parishes and Chappelries respectively within our Archdeaconry aforesaid upon the Lords Day commonly called Sunday, next after these presents shall come to hands in the Churches and Chappels of your respective Parishes and Chappelries, to call upon and admonish all the Fathers, Mothers Masters and Dames of Parishes and Chappelries respectively, that have any Children, Servants, or Apprentices in ther ffamilies, to send, or to cause all their Children, Servants, and Apprentices to resort to Church on Sundays and

9. Ordered that a Copy of it be presented to the Society for Reformation of Manners.

Holy Daies, to the End and purpose that from time to time they may be instructed and examined by you their respective Ministers in the Catechism aforesaid according to the true intent and meaning of the beforenamed Rubrick of Common Prayer and of the Canons and Constitutions aforesaid. And we further will and require you to intimate or signifie to them the said Fathers, Mothers, Masters, Dames, Servants, and Apprentices by a publication of these presents in your severall Churches and Chappeles, that if they or any of them after this our Canonical Admonition and Intimation there denounced, as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to perform their Duties aforesaid respectively; We do purpose and resolve then thereupon to proceed against them, and to punish them and every of them, according to the said Canons and Constitutions, for their Contempt in that behalf. In Witness whereof We have hereunto set the seal of our office the day of in the year of our Lord God according to the computation of the Church of England, 1701.

Dunelm. The Grand Inquest for the County aforesaid do present these severall persons following for the Crimes offences and Misdeam[rs] hereafter mentioned.

Imprimis. Wee do present Richard White of Newhouse in the Chappelry of Ash for having in his house severall Crucifixes, popish vestments, Mass Books, and other popish Trinketts the 31 day of october 1701.

Itm. Wee do present M[r]. Ralph Mair for haveing in his house in the parish of St. Gyles, the 2 day of November last an Alter Crucifix over it with severall Cushions laid round the Alter in order for their popish worship.

Itm. Wee do present Nicholas Ladler and his wife, Tho. Nichelson, Richard Mainfford, Ann the Daughter of Edward Richardson, Abraham Brantingham and his two Daughters, all in the parish of St. Gyles for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Item. Wee do present Jane the wife of Nicholas Rowell, Mary the wife of William Farrow of Farewell Hall, Mary Liddle of Shinelesse, widdow Paterson living in the Road to Ash all in the parish of St. Oswald for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Item. Wee do present Elizabeth the wife of John Smith, and Thomas Smith his son, Tho. Barrofoot all of Stanley in the parish of Tanfield for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Item. Wee do present Robert Willson of Forth, Robert ffulthorp of Copen Hill Mill, Elizabeth Hall of Lanchester all in the parish of Lanchester for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present George Hobson, Myles Garry both in the parish of Hurworth for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present Christopher Rainton and his family in the parish of Greatham for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present John Armestrong of Dalton partly in the parish of Heart for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present William Worthy and his wife Will Lamb and his wife Geo. Waugh, John Pearson and his wife, Jane Nelson widdow, all in the parish of Kelloc for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present Thomas Parkin and Thomas Atkinson in the parish of Aycliffe for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

10. A Letter read from Mr. Griffith.

11. Ordered that the Secretary return him an answer.

12. A Letter read from S[r] Richard Bulkeley.

13. Ordered that a Specimen of all the Papers of this Society be delivered to Mr. Vernon to carry with him beyond the Seas.

14. Agreed that the matter of the Correspondence be referred to the above mentioned Committee.

15. Dr. Bray presented a Memoriall relating to the Quakers.

16. Ordered that it be read at next meeting, when Mr. Buggs proposals are read.

17. Resolved that for the future the Day of the Society's meetings

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Item. Wee do present Lawrence Grunday and his wife of the parish of Norton for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

Itm. Wee do present Ann Hedley of Ushaw widdow and family, the wife of William Smith of Heugh all in the parish of Ash for being reconciled to the Church of Rome.

And for as much as we are given to understand that Mass is frequently said in the parishes following (vizt.) in the parish of St. Oswolds and St. Gyles in Durham in the parish of Gateshead in the parish of Tanfield in the parish of Kelloc in the Chappelry of Croxdale and in the parish of Norton by reason of the negligent [*sic*] and treachery of the Constables.

Itm. Wee do therefore present all and several Constables of the respective parishes aforesaid for being negligent and remiss in their office.

Item. Wee do present all the Constables in the City of Durham the Constables of the market place only excepted for being negligent and remiss in visiting publick houses in time of Divine Service and sufferring tipling and drinking on the Lords day.

Itm. Wee do present Robert Scott, Isabell Tayler, Widdow, and Mary Miller late widdow and now wife of one whose name is unknown to us, all in the parish of St. Gyles for harbouring and keeping Irish and Scotch vagabons Rogges and beggers as allso William Nicholson the younger of Shereburne in the parish of Pittington Laborer for the same offence.

Wee look upon the Execution of Justice in the house of Correction to be eitheir by bribery or some other means in a great manner overseen. Wee beg of this Honorable Bench every Grand Malefact may suffer punishment according to the merit of their offence.

We desire the overseers of the poor in every parish do diligently take care of poor Children that they may be put in time to schoole and be brought up in the fear of God, and be put out in time to trades or what other imploy may be thought most fit according to the statute made in the of his Majesties Reigne. Wittness our hands this fiveteenth of January in the thirteenth year of the Reigne of our Soveraigne Lord King William the third over England &c. Ano Dom. 1701.

Thomas Brass	John Raine	John Wood
Tho. Weardell	Rich. Wright	Robt. Bainbrig
Tho. Burlelson	John Rawling	Nicho. Reed
Antho. Sampson	John Wilson	John Thompson.
John Busby		

be Thursday at 4 o'Clock during this Sessions of Parliament, and that the Messenger doe certify the absent members thereof.

18. A Decree in Chancery was read for payment of £80 to Mr. Edward Stephens.

19. Ordered that Mr. George Brewster be allowed the Charges he had been at in pursuing this affair, and that he be desired to sollicit this matter with all Expedition.

20. Dr. Bray presented a Paper from the Committee appointed to visit the Prison in Newgate, containing some Proposals concerning the better Regulating the Same, &c., which were read and approved.

21. Ordered that these Proposalls with the Scheme mentioned in the Minutes of Jan. 12 [1] be referred to the Consideration of those Gentlemen of this Society who are Members of Parliament.

22. Ordered that 4 Bibles with the Service and Singing Psalms be given to the Prison of Newgate, one to each Common Room.

23. Ordered that Mr. Lorrain & Mr. Hodges do take care to see this done, and that they have power to buy any other book that they shall think necessary.

24. Agreed that S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth be the Chairman of the ensuing month, and that the next meeting be on Thurday come se'night.

12 Febr., 1701-2.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. William Hodges, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Hutchinson a Correspondent, Dr. Nichols a Correspondent, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bynnes a Correspondent, Lord Guilford, Mr. Lorrain, Mr. Griffin a Correspondent, Mr. Comyns, Dr. Lloyd.

S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth in the Chair.

1. Ordered that the further Consideration of the Report touching the Imperfect Minutes be referred to the next meeting.

2. A Motion being made for the Society to send some of their Books to the Severall Assizes.

3. Ordered that the farther Consideration of this matter be referred to a Committee, and they to meet att Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Tuesday at 4 o'Clock.

4. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. W^m^ Hodges, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. John Hodges, or any 3 of them, be that Committee, and that they doe make their Report at next meeting.

5. Dr. Bray's Proposalls relating to Lending Librarys being read,

6. Ordered that they be considered by the last-named Committee.

7. An Extract out of Arch D. Booth's Letter, and the Presentments of the Grand Jury at Durham, was read.

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[1] See note, pp. 48–51.

8. Ordered that the Secretary and his Assistant doe consider it, and take care to have it inserted into the Publick Prints.

9. Mr. Francis Bugg[1] being call'd in, gave the Society a large account of the pressing Necessity there is at this Juncture, of dispersing amongst the Quakers diverse Treatises, in order to their better Instruction, especially those that follow, viz[t].

10. The Sleeford Conference (not yet printed).

11. Vox Populi.

12. George Fox's Will.

13. Mr. Keith's Broadsheet.

14. And that if he had a fitting number of these Books entrusted to him, he will be Responsible, and bound to the Society to reimburse them either in money, or by the Remainder of the Books.

15. Resolved that this Society will give Mr. Bugg Creditt with their Printer and Stationer for a Summe not exceeding £26. 10s. to the purpose above mentioned.

16. Agreed that this Society will take off 100 Copies of Mr. Bugg's Pilgrim's Progress at 2s. a Book.

17. Ordered that the Treasurer do buy a Bible, and 6 of Mr. Kettlewell's[2] office for Prisoners for the Use of White Chappell Prison.

18. Ordered that the Committee do read & draw up Answers to those Letters that require them.

19 February, 1701-2.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Dr. Mecken, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Dr. Davies and Mr. Wootton Correspondents, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, the Dean of Chichester, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Griffith a Correspondent, Dr. Nichols and Mr. Lorrain Correspondents.

Dr. Manningham in the Chair during S[r] Humfrey Mackworth's absence.

1. Mr. Shute Reported that he had paid Mr. George Brewster £13 for his Charges in solliciting the late Benefaction of Mr. Stevens.

2. The Translation of a French Letter from Mr. de Berringhen was read.

3. Ordered that it be referred to the last mentioned Committee, and that they do meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Tuesday at 4 o'Clock.

4. Ordered that they be all Summoned to meet here

5. Ordered that the Business before committed to them be then considered.

6. Mr. Bugg was called in, and

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[1] Author of several works on Quakerism.

[2] John Kettlewell, B.D., the celebrated Non-Juror, born 1653; died 1695. "An Office for Prisoners" is published in his works. 2 vols. London: 1719.

7. The Lord Guilford laid before the Society a Copy of the Petition of Mary Ely, Susanna Everard, and Sarah Pike, widows, to the Honorable House of Lords against the Bill for continuing the late Act for accepting the Quakers Solemn Affirmation instead of an Oath in the usuall Form.

8. The Lord Guilford moved that the Society would appoint a Committee to examine the above named Petitioners, touching their Proofs of what they affirm in their Petition.

9. His Lordship did also move that in case their Proofs should be allowed by that Committee, that this Society would allow the Petitioners wherewithall to fee 2 Councelors to plead in their behalfe, at the Barr of the Honorable House of Lords.

10. Ordered that a Committee do meet about this matter at Heaven,[1] near Westminster Hall, to-morrow at 12 o'Clock, and afterw^ds at Mr. Brewster's by 4 o'Clock.

11. Ordered that my Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Keith, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, or any three of them be that Committee.

12. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be returned to his Lordship for his great Piety & zeal shew'd in this Affair.

13. The Agents for Schools being called in,

14. Mr. Bridges laid before the Society a Proposal concerning a Generall Subscription to Schools w^ch was read, and when amended in some little matters approv'd.

15. Mr. Dean of Chichester reported that they were almost ready to open in his Parish 2 new Schools, one for 50 Boys, and th' other for 50 Girls.

26 Februar., 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Neville, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Thorold, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Bray.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair, Deputed by S^r Humfrey Mackworth.

1. Ordered that the Consideration of the Report touching the Imperfect Minutes be referred to the next meeting.

2. A Letter read from Mr. Osterwald to Mr. Masson.

3. Ordered that Dr. Bray and the Secretary do wait on the Lord Bishop of London, & do desire his Lordship to acquaint Dr. Zeller, the Antistes of Zurich, with the Religious Designs of this Society.

4. The Secretary said that he had something of importance to communicate to the Society, which he desired might be at a fuller meeting.

[1] "Heaven" was a tavern in Old Palace-yard, on the site of which the committee-rooms of the House of Commons now stand. It is mentioned by Pepys in his "Diary," under date Jan. 28, 1659–60. "I returned and went to Heaven, where I dined."

5. Ordered that all the absent members be summoned to attend at next meeting.

6. Ordered that Dr. Kennett & Dr. Woodward be desired to draw up answers to Monsieur De Berringhen's last Letters.

7. The Secretary reported that the Committee was of opinion that a Packet should be forthwith sent to each County Gaol in England.

8. In which should be putt, viz. :—

9. 6 Kettlewel's Offices,[1] 12 Pastoral Letters, 12 Cautions against Swearing, 12 Cautions ag^{t} Drunkeness, 12 Cautions ag^{t} Uncleanness, 12 Observations of the Lord's Day, 6 Christian Monitors, 6 Offices for Condemned Criminals.

10. Ordered that such a Pacquett be forthwith made up and sent immediately to each County in England, and that the Treasurer & Secretary have power to putt in besides such others of this Society's Papers as they shall think fitt.

11. A Letter from Mr. A. D. Booth (with an Injunction to his Clergy therein inclosed) were read.

12. Ordered that these Papers be referred to the consideration of Mr. A. D. Kennett, and that he do give his opinion thereof to the Society at next meeting.

5 March, 1701-2.

Present: the Lord Bishop of Worcester, the Lord Bishop of Chester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, Mr. Nelson, S^{r} John Philips, the Lord Guilford, Col. Colchester, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Bulstrode, S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Ludolph a Correspondent, Mr. Wright, Dr. Littel, the Dean of Lincoln, Mr. Lorrain a Correspondent, Mr. Dean of Chichester, Mr. Nevil, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Gerard, Mr. Gordon a Correspondent.

S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth in the Chair.

1. Ordered that Mr. Gardiner be a Corresponding Member for Evesham, being recommended by the Lord Bishop of Worcester.

2. A Letter was read from Mr. Chamberlayne, desiring to be excused from attending the Service of the Society as their Secretary, by reason of the many different business w^{ch} lye heavy upon him, but that he would continue his Subscription as a member.

3. Resolved that Humphrey Wanley be the Secretary to this Society for the future.

4. Resolved that his Salary be advanced to £70 per annum.

5. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Chamberlayne for the Services done by him to this Society.

6. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne do deliver to the new Secretary all such Books and Papers belonging to this Society as are now in his Custody.

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[1] "Office for Prisoners."

Ordered that the Correspondents be forthwith acquainted with this new Election, that they may know how to direct their Letters aright for the future.

8. Mr. Bugg was call'd in, who laid before the Society some late Charges of his, about the three Widdows' Petition, mention'd in the Minutes of the 19th ult.

9. Ordered that he be paid by the Treasurer.

10. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

11. The Form of Subscription towards the maintaining some Schools in the Poorer and Out Parishes of London and Westminster was read, and,

12. A long Debate arising thereupon,

13. Ordered that this Debate be deferred to the next meeting.

14. Agreed that Mr. Nelson be the Chairman to this Society for the ensuing month.

15. A motion was made that this Society would disperse some copies of the Accounts of the Sufferings of the Protestants on board the French King's Gallies, amongst the Soldiers and Seamen in his Majesty's Fleet.

16. Ordered that this be one of the Books to be dispersed accordingly, when the Society take's this matter into their more particular consideration.

17. Mr. Lloyd read part of a Letter from the Reverend Dr. Hodges to him concerning the Society of the Clergy at Alcester in Worcestershire.

18. The Lord Bishop of Worcester being pleased to say that he would conferr with the Lord Bishop of London about writing to Dr. Zeller of Zurich concerning the Designs of this Society,

19. Ordered that the Secretary do wait upon his Lordship with an account of the Designs and Successes of this Society.

20. Col. Colchester reported that the small printed Papers of this Society against Swearing, &c., had done a great deal of good in Glocestershire, and that if the Society would send some more of them thither, in all Probability they would have the same good Effect.

21. Ordered that the Treasurer do send thither 100 of each of the said Papers, according to the Coll[s] Directions.

12 March, 1701-2.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Nelson, Col. Colchester, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Windham a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lorrain a Correspondent, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Bromhall a Correspondent, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Masson a Correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Dr. Slare.

1. Ordered that the Consideration of the Report concerning the Imperfect Minutes be referred to the next meeting.

2. Ordered y^t^ for the future such Pacquets as shall be given to the Prisoners in the severall Gaols of this kingdom be directed to such Correspondents as are upon the place, or else to those that are nearest to the Gaol.

3. Ordered that a List of such Counties and Shire Towns wherein this Society ha's no Correspondents, be drawn up by the Secretary and laid before the Society at next meeting.

4. Ordered that Dr. Bray doe conferr with Dr. Ellis, and Mr. Treasurer with Dr. King about furnishing the Souldiers in her Ma^ts^ Guards with some of the Books and Papers of this Society, & that they do make their Report at next meeting.

5. Mr. Bugg's Introduction to his Narrative of the Sleeford Conference being laid before the Society,

6. Ordered that it, with the whole narrative, be perused by Mr. Keith, and he to report his opinion of them at next meeting.

7. Ordered that Mr. Robert Hales's Letter from St. Gall, dated 26 November, 1701, be sent to Mr. A. D. Booth, and that Mr. A. D. be desired to return it back with all convenient speed.

8. The Agents for Schools being called in,

9. They reported a Person whom they know to be a Sollicitor for the Generall Subscriptions to Schools, for whom they desire a Salary of £20 per ann., &

10. A Debate arising thereupon,

11. Ordered that it be adjourned to the next meeting.

12. A Letter read from Mr. Hales from St. Gall, dated 19 Febr. 1701-2.

13. A Translation of a Latin Letter read from Mr. Scherer.

14. The Translation of a French Letter from Mr. à Moos to Mr. Hales.

19 March, 1701-2.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Neville, Dr. Slare.

Memorandum, the above named Gentlemen not being a Quorum, thought fitt to adjourn to this day seavennight.

S^r^ Hum. Mackworth was here as Mr. Nelson's Deputy, but went away some time after, leaving Mr. Nevill in his Room.

26 March, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Lorrain a Correspondent, Dr. Mecken, Dr. Slare, Mr. Lloyd.

1. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne have a Copy of the Minutes of this Society communicated to him weekly, to send beyond Sea to Mr. Vernon.

2. Ordered that those Papers belonging to this Society that do yet remain in Mr. Chamberlayne's Custody be forthwith delivered by him to the Secretary.

3. Ordered that the Secretary do maintain a strict Correspondence with Mr. Frank of Bedfordshire, and that he do communicate to him, at convenient times, Copies of the Minutes and other Letters and Papers, in order to the better carrying on the Business of this Society.

4. Ordered that the Messenger do wait upon the Members of this Society and collect their Subscriptions due for the last Quarter.

5. Ordered that the Pacquett and other Printed Papers of this Society be delivered to Mr. Mecken, and by him sent into Denmark.

6. The Secretary produced a List of those Counties and Shire Towns, wherein the Society wants Correspondents.

7. Which being consider'd in part,

8. Ordered that it be referred to the next meeting.

9. Mr. Shute reported that he had conferred with Mr. King, who readily promised to disperse the Printed Books and Papers of this Society amongst the Souldiers in the Lord Cutt's Regiment of foot Guards.

10. Ordered that the Treasurer do deliver to Mr. King such a number of the said Books and Papers, as will be proportionable to those allow'd by this Society to her Majesty's Garrisons.

11. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

12. Mr. Bridges reported that a School for 25 boys clothed, was opened about a week ago in Covent Garden Parish.

13. Agreed that this Society will allow the Person recommended by the Agents for Sollicitor for the General Subscriptions the summe of five pounds for one Quarter's Sollicitation, but upon condition that he do's not quitt his present Employment, upon expectations of further encouragement from this Society.

2 April, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Keith a Correspondent.

1. Mr. Waddington approv'd, and Dr. Manningham to desire his Attendance.

2. Ordered that when one Resident Member is wanting towards making a Quorum, the Secretary shall be taken in for that time.

3. Resolved that Dr. Manningham be Chairman for the Ensuing Month.

4. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

5. They reported that the Trustees for Clerkenwell School had allowed the Schoolmaster to take in 10 Schollars att 20s. per annum a piece, upon which they had visited the said School, where they found 16 Schollars besides the poor children.

6. Ordered that Mr. Shute do confer with Mr. Blackerby & Mr. Short upon this Important Affair, and make a Report of the Result at next meeting.

7. Mr. Keith reported that he had perused Mr. Bugg's Narrative of the Sleeford Conference, with the Introduction, w^{ch} he found to be

moderate Christian, and just as to the Quotations (after one of them is Amended), and that (in his opinion) the Publication and dispersing of it will be of great use in detecting the vile errors held by the Quakers.

8. Mr. Bugg being call'd in,

9. The Chairman acquainted him that this Society in taking off 100 Copies of his Pilgrim's Progress at 2s. per Book, understood this £10 to be part of the £20. 10s. w^ch^ this Society give's him Creditt for, with their Printer and Stationer; with which he owned himself to be extreamly well satisfyed.

10. The Secretary reported that Mr. Carte accept's the Correspondence of Leicester, and that the Society's Books & Papers sent to the Prisoners, have been disposed of according to their Desires in the Gaols of Leicester, Nottingham, Coventre, and Warwick.

11. The Secretary reported that Mr. Cleveland of Dudley, Mr. John's of Stroud, and Mr. A. D. Booth would gladly accept of some of the Books and Papers of this Society to disperse among their poor Parishioners, &c.

12. Also that Mr. Vincent Edwards desire's to buy 300 Observations of the Lord's Day, and 300 Cautions against Swearing.

13. Ordered that the Treasurer do supply the aboves^d^ Gentlemen with such Books and Papers as he shall judge to be proper, and that he do furnish Mr. Vincent Edwards with the Papers he want's.

9 April, 1702.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Akers a Correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Comyns, S^r^ Edm. Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Collins, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Slare, Col. Colchester.

1. Mr. Waddington was approved, and did accordingly attend.

2. Mr. Collins was approved, & did attend.

3. Mr. Serjeant Hook reported that Application had been lately made to Mr. Mecken from Sweden and Holstein (as was before from Denmark) for some of the Books and Papers of this Society.

4. Orderd that the Treasurer do deliver to Mr. Mecken 2 Pacquetts, one for Sweden, and th' other for Holstein.

5. Ordered that Mr. Bull be a Correspondent for Oxford.

6. Ordered that Mr. Bennett be a Correspondent for Colchester.

7. Agreed that the Consideration of the List for Supplying the Vacancies in the Correspondence be adjourned to the next meeting.

8. Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne be desired to conferr with the Lord Cutts about dispersing the Society's Books (now remaining in the Custody of Mr. Thorold) amongst her Majesty's Souldiers in Holland; and that he do make his Report at next meeting.

9. Ordered that the Treasurer doe send away, with all convenient

speed, the following Books and Papers to S^r Richard Bulkeley at Dublin, to disperse amongst her Ma^ts Souldiers in Ireland, viz^t :—

1,000 Pastorall Letters,
500 Soldiers Monitors,
1,000 Cautions ag^t Swearing,
500 Cautions ag^t Drunkeness,
500 Cautions ag^t Uncleaness.

10. Mr. Akers representing to the Society the great want of good Books amongst the Poor of his Parish,

11. Ordered that the Treasurer do supply him according to his Discretion.

12. The Treasurer Reported that the ordinary Pacquetts are all sent away, and he moved that a Committee might be appointed to consider of what Books and Papers may be proper to be putt into the new Pacquett, and to review them for that purpose.

13. Ordered that their Lordships the Bishops, the Deans of Chichester & Lincoln, Dr. Bray, Dr. Woodward, Mr. Arch D. Kennett, Mr. Shute, and the other Divines of that Society be this Committee.

14. Ordered that the said Committee do meet at this place every Thursday at 2 o'Clock precisely, and so to continue their meetings till they have gone through their Business.

15. Ordered that £4 be distributed amongst Mr. Serjeant Hook's servants, and that the same Gratuity be allowed them every Lady-day.

16. Resolved that if any member of this Society shall compose any Treatise to be printed or dispersed by this Society that his Copy shall be brought to, and inspected by, the abovemention'd Committee of Divines before it be printed.[1]

17. The Secretary reported that the Society's Gift of Books and Papers came safe, and are distributed according to their Desires in the Gaols of Exeter and Reading.

16 April, 1702.

Present: The Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Collins, the Secretary, Mr. Wesley[2] a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Keith a Correspondent, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Bulstrode, S^r H. Mackworth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Heart a Correspondent.

1. The Secretary reported (from Mr. Heart) that the Society's Gift of Books and Papers came safe to Winchester Gaol, and are there disposed of according to their Desires.

2. A Letter was read from Mr. Chamberlayne to the Chairman, shewing that the Governor of New England desire's some of the

[1] This is the first indication of a Publication Committee of the S.P.C.K.
[2] Rev. Samuel Wesley, of Epworth.

Society's Books and Papers to disperse amongst the Poor People in his Province, and that he would keep a constant and regular Correspondence with the Society.

3. Ordered that the Treasurer do send to the Governor such a Parcell of Books and Papers as he shall judge to be proper and sufficient.

4. A Letter was read from Mr. Arch. D. Entwistle, together with the Orders of the Society of Clergy at Warrington.

5. Ordered that the Secretary do write him an Answer.

6. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

7. Mr. Skate reported that the Subscription to the School at St. Buttolph's,[1] Aldersgate, do's now amount to £40 per annum.

8. Mr. Gardner Reported that he had lately been at Epsom, where he found a great Likelyhood of Erecting a School there upon the foundation of £300 lately bequeathed to the Parish for that purpose, and with which is purchased £15 per annum.

9. A Letter read from Mr. Thomlinson of Newcastle, also

10. Translations of some Latin and French Letters from Switzerland.

11. Ordered that the Secretary do send an Answer of Thanks to Mr. Thomlinson, and that he do draw up an Answer to Mr. Scherer, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.

12. Mr. Wesley's account of the Religious Society at Epsworth was read, for which the Society gave him their Thanks.[2]

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[1] Corrected in another copy of the Minutes to "St. Anne's."

[2] AN ACCOUNT OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY BEGUN IN EPWORTH, IN THE ISLE OF AXHOLM LINCONSHIRE, FEB: 1, AN: DOM: 1701–2.

Dec. 23.—Having found by sad Experience that little or nothing was to be don here towards the Reformation of manners, by ordinary methodes, by reason of the negligence of the officers, who want courage and are generally either mast men or such as [frequent?] publick houses, and notoriously intemperate, after my having preach'd many sermons on that occasion and read proclamations Abstracts of the Laws and order of the Justices as well as discoursd with the serious particularly and privately of that occassion and given and lent them Mr. Yates Accounts of the Reformation, and other books on that subject, and yet still finding vice and all wickedness, especially Drunkeness increasing, notwithstanding the terrible Judgments of God most remarkably exercised on offenders, no less than fourteen people in about 3 years last pass'd having com to untimely Ends in the very act of Drunkeness, and occasioned by it, within a few miles of this place; for these Reasons as well as for the particular advantage of myself and others, as to our proficiency in Piety and Virtue, I had an earnest desire for som years to see a Religious Society form'd among my people, having hopes of assistance from thence in Time, to Reform others, which I despair'd of seeing accomplish'd by any other methods.

This I propos'd som time since to my Rt Reverend Diocan, who gave me Liberty to attempt it.

But when I came to consider the Genius of my People and the great

13. Ordered that the fair Copy of Mr. Hales's Letter dated Nov^{r} 26, 1701, be delivered to Dr. Bray, in order to be communicated to the

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Ignorance, carelessness of their souls, and notorious Vices which were so common among them, I must own I had so little Hopes of the possibillity of forming a Society here, that I had dropp'd it for som years.

But on receiving the last Packet from this Honorable society (for which I return my most humble Thanks) wch came to Hand the 9th of December, and reading over with more attention then formerly D^{r} Woodwards Book of the Religious Societys, Edit : 3, I observed that passage p. 41, concerning old Rumney in Kent, and finding the Character of those people too like that of my own, and the Difficultys there which I mett with here, which yet were by God's Blessing at last surmounted, and a society establish'd with good Effect, I began to think that the same might not be impossible here, especially having formerly laid the same scheme as that of this Reverend Clergyman, and resolv'd to draw out some of the most sensible and well dispos'd persons among my singers, in order to the founding of such a society.

Feb : 7th : 1701-2.—Accordingly in the name of God, I set about it, and having instructed the most sober and sensible young man amongst my singers with my design, and sent him and others those Books of D^{r} Woodward which were sent me the matter was so order'd that they discours'd one another concerning it, and at length came of their own accord to me, and desired my assistance in forming 'em into such a society—Which I did and having draw up their orders the same in substance with those at London, only differing as our Circumstances did, we mett the first time at my own Houses the 7th of Feb : 1701—Present 8 persons besides myself the Rules and orders were distinctly and deliberately read over, and I showed the Reasonableness of every one in particular, the necessity of most of 'em in order to our eternal Happiness, and the great advantage of the rest, as to our proficiency in piety and virtue, desiring any that were present to make their objections if they had ought to say against any of 'em. 'Twas objected against one of the Orders which was for prayer in familys, where they had any or whenever they should have any, Mornings and Evenings, which was so universally neglected, that I know but two familys at most in the whole town, out of 300, who did before practice it: it was objected to this, that their affairs of Husbandry would sometimes unvoidable take 'em off from Family Prayers in the mornings, by their people being scattered about their Business. I reply'd, that would take up but little Time to repeat the Lord's Prayer and som short Collects: However I contented that these words (when it can possible be don) should be called to this order, as for Evenings, they all contented and promised to do it, and likewise to read a Chapter in their Familys. Then the orders were subscrib'd as they have bin since then by severall others (one of 'em the son of an Anabaptist) and near twenty besides, severall who have been occasionally present at our Meetings, which are every Satard Ev : in order to prepare for the Lords day.

Wee have had 8 meetings since we began and the Members of the society promis'd to continue in my absence. They are most of 'em remarkable altered since we began : they forbear publick Houses unless when their Necessary occasions calls 'em thither ; are much more carefull of their Lives and Conversations, Communicate Monthly with great Devotion and appear very zealous for the Glory of God, and the welfare of their own and others

Lady Catherine Jones, and that the Letter be brought back within 3 weeks.

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souls and often declare that they find much more comfort in this way of Living, and in their Meetings and Conferences then they could ever have expected and long all the week till the time coms for their Meeting, and love one another and their Minister better than ever.

The Chief of the Town laugh at us, or worse, Objecting, what is true enough, that most of our Society are mean inconsiderable men, that those of the most wealth and best Figure dont joyn with us, but I like it never the worse, and hope it will the more visible appear to be from God, who loves to exalt the humble, and the meaner the Instruments are the more Glory will he have, if he pleases to make use of us to do any good amongst our neighbors.

I cant say they yet encreace much in Knowledg having bin formerly very Ignorant, but I verily think they do in Piety and Humility, and I hope the other will com by degrees, I having dispers'd som of the Books, which the society sent me, amongst them in order to assist 'em in Religious Conference, and do preach one sermon every Lords day on that subject which is to be discoursed on at next meeting, and which was proposd the Saterday before.

There are I believe 30 or 40 other sober persons in the Town who would be glad to enter the society: But we are not hasty in admitting 'em till we are very well acquainted with 'em. These will make up a considerable Body, and are most of 'em just entring on the Scene of life: besides this Society, if we could get a Charity-School erected amongst us, it would I believe go a great way towards the securing two Generations. There's yet nothing don by M^{r} W. in that matter, tho if there were something to begin with, subscribed by others, the Inhabitants satisfy'd would do pretty considerable themselves, tho I doubt, not otherwise.

I. Every week at set hours, when 2, 3, or more do meet together for this Intent, First to pray to God; Secondly, to read the Holy Scriptures, and discourse upon Religious Matters for their mutual Edification; And Thirdly, to deliberate about the Edification of our neighbour, and the promoting it.

II. Those that do thus meet together, are above all things sollicitous about the Salvation of their neighbour, yea they make it their business to be Christians not only in name but in deed: Least they should strive rashly to pull out the Mote from the Eies of others, not observing the Beam in their own; and lest while they preach to others themselves should become castaways.

III. For this Reason they do not admit every body promiscuously, but if any one desires to be of their Society, it must be done by the Consent of all; and therefore his Piety ought to be known to all, lest a little Leven should spoil the whole Lump, For they take it for Granted that things will then fall out well, when each of them shall be of that mind, as that it may be affirm'd upon good Grounds that *This is Emanuel that dwells through Faith, of the power of God, in the Heart of every one, as in his Temple.*

IIII. Nor do they allow that the number of their members should encrease too much, lest this Religious design should fall with its own weight, or at least be marr'd. Therefore when they have twelve Members they admitt no more. But if God shall stir up more, who shall desire the same Edification with them, they seperate two Members from them, to form a new Society

Thursday, 23 April, 1702.

This being the day of her Majesty's Coronation, there was no meeting.

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with those that desire it, till that also grow's up to the number of Twelve, and so another new Society be form'd out of it.

V. A Society or two being now set up ; they think it may be practicable to take in such persons only, in whom there may be hopes, that by such a pious Conversation, they may be brought to a real and serious denying of the World, yet not to admitt above 2 or 3 at the most of such Members, of whose solid piety they are not yet sufficiently appris'd, lest by any unwary Charity towards all it may happen by degrees, that Darkness might begin to get ground.

VI. But if they, of whose Conversion to God there may be hopes, shall not blush to devote themselves to Vice and Wickedness and thereby become a scandal to their neighbour: they are no longer look'd as a part of the Society lest those who are sincere should be drawn to partake either of the Vice or of the Scandal.

VII. All Debates about the Corruption of Manners which have crept into the Church, of Amending or Reforming the Church point of Manners, is reffer'd to the first Society. The other Societies are contented with their own Edification and if any one knows what will tend to the publick Edification, he discover's it to the first Society, or at least to some member of the first Society, that so it may be consider'd by all the Members therof, how it does conduce towards the common Design, and may be reduced into practice.

VIII. But this first Society does in no wise assume any prerogative to it self : but the Debating about the publick Edification is for this Reason ; least one Society should hinder another, and because all are not fitt to be Councellors. Hence it is that this Society is obliged to be carefull to take in such Members alone, as are able to help the Church by their Wisdom and good advices.

VIIII. They do not take in any Women into these Societies, in order to avoid scandal and all other abuses the more easily, to which promiscuous meetings cannot but be liable. Women may hear their Husbands at Home, and Girls their parents : for tis a duty incumbent upon every Member of these Societies, next to his own soul to be chiefly sollicitous for those of his Family. And if there be any one who is a Master of a Family, yet by his grave Conversation he may be very benificial to those amongst whom he lives, tis very necessary that by living Examples men may see what a true Christian is, who still is very hard to meet with.

X. They carry on a Subscription in every Society, towards which every Member contributes each Meeting, according to his Charity and Ability. The money so Collected is to be expended no other way than in promoting the Designs of the Societies, or for Reforming the Church.

XI. Their first care is to set Schools for the Poor, wherein Children (or if need be, Adult Persons,) may be instructed in the Fundamentals of Christianity by men of known and approv'd Piety.

XII. Their second design is to procure little Practical Treatises from Holland, England, and Germany, &c. to translate them into the Vulgar

30 April, 1702.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. A. D. Kennett, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brewster, the Secretary, Mr. Shute, Mr. King, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. W^m^ Hodges, Dr. Nichols, Mr. John Hodges, Mr. Bedford and Mr. Wesley Correspondents, Mr. Stubbs.

Dr. Manningham in the Chair.

1. The Secretary reported that Mr. Bennett of Colchester, and Mr Bull of Oxford, have accepted their Correspondence.

2. Agreed that the Consideration of the List for Supplying the vacancies in the Correspondence be adjourned to the next meeting.

3. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne be asked the Result of the Conference with the Lord Cutts about dispersing the Society's Books and Papers amongst her Majesty's Souldiers in Holland.

4. The Secretary reported that the Society's Books and Papers came safe, and are dispersed according to their Desires in the Gaols at York.

5. Ordered that Mr. Shute be the Chairman for the ensuing month.

6. The Secretary brought a Draught of a Letter to Mr. Scherer, w^ch^ was read, and he was ordered to add another Paragraph to it about the Death of the late King, &c., and to bring it again to the next meeting.

7. A Letter was read from one Mr. Robert Hannay recommending himself to the Charity of this Society as a great Sufferer by the Quakers.

8. Ordered the members of this Society do enquire after this Mr. Hannay.

9. The Translation of a German Letter from Madam Hortensia de Salis to Mr. Hales was read.

10. Ordered that the Secretary do make an Extract out of it, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.

11. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. A. Deacon Entwistle and to S^r^ Richard Bulkeley about the Books and Papers sent by this Society into Ireland for the use of her Ma^tys^ Soldiers there.

Tounge, print them, and so to give or lend them to those who are less sollicitous of their own and others Edification.

XIII. The Third is to establish a Correspondence with such Societies in England, Germany, &c. that so they may mutually Edify one another: especially since they have learn'd that by keeping up a Correspondence, as they gain knowledg and experience in Edifying the whole Church: so their wholesome advices will thereby be forwarded, and the better reduced to practise.

XIIII. The Fourth is to take Care of the Sick and other Poor, and to afford them Spiritual as well as Corporal Helps. When their Stock is sufficiently large to carry on these pious Designs, they deliberate of some other proper method of disposing of that which remains. The means will not fail to be present, if all things shall be done of God, in God, and thro' God.

7 May, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Brewster, the Secretary, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. John Hodges, Col. Colchester, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turner, Dr. Slare, Dr. Bray, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Killingworth a Correspondent.

Mr. Shute in the Chair (but being obliged to go, left S^r^ John Philips in his place).

1. The Secretary reported that the Society's Books and Papers came safe to the Gaol of Darby, and are disposed of there, according to the Desires of this Society.

2. Ordered that Mr. Wesley's account of the Religious Society att Epsworth be again read at next meeting.

3. Ordered that the Secretary do putt Dr. Bray in mind of restoring the Copy of Mr. Hales's Letter.

4. A Debate arising about a Gift of Books and Papers to the Fleet,

5. Ordered that Mr. Stubbs, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. Mecken, and Mr. Chamberlayne do wait on the A. Bp. of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Lord High Admirall, S^r^ George Rook, and what other Persons they shall think fitt, and desire their opinion and Advice about furnishing the Fleet with a sufficient number of good and usefull Books for the Benefitt of the Seamen and Souldiers on board the same.

6. Ordered that the abovesaid Gentlemen do acquaint their Lordships what Books and Papers have been already given to the Soldiers and Seamen by this Society.

7. Ordered that the said Gentlemen do desire to know whether her Majesty or his Royal Highness the Prince of Denmark may not be applyed to for a sum sufficient to defray the Charge of this good Work.

8. Ordered that the Treasurer do continue to make up & send away the ordinary Pacquetts to the Correspondents until the Committee of Divines shall have ordered a new Pacquet to be made.

9. Mr. Chamberlayne reported that the Lord Cutts spake very affectionately and respectfully of this Society, and promised to take all possible care of dispersing the Society's Books and Papers among her Majesty's Soldiers in Holland.

10. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Thorold at Rotterdam to send with all speed the Society's Books in his Custody to the Lord Cutts, to be distributed accordingly.

11. The Draught of a Letter to Mr. Scherer was again read, with some Amendments approved & ordered to be sent.

12. Madam Hortensia de Sallis's account of her Life to Mr. Hales was again read, together with the Extract out of it.

13. A Letter was read from Mr. Rob^t^ Hales to Mr. Chamberlayne.

14. Ordred y^t^ all theDivines be summoned to meet here this day seavennight at 2 o'Clock.

14 May, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. W^m^ Hodges, Dr. Bray, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Stubbs, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Collins, Mr. Killingworth a Correspondent, Mr. King, Mr. Bromfield, Col. Colchester, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Windham.

Mr. Shute in the Chair.

1. Mr. Hodges reported that if the Society determined to bestow a Gift of Books and Papers upon the Souldiers and Seamen on board the Fleet, not exceeding the value of £15, that then his opinion was that 1,500 of Mr. Stubbs' Sermons, and the rest in Cautions against Swearing would be very proper, but if they should enlarge their Gift, it might be done in bestowing Seamen's Monitors, or other useful Treatises as the Society shall think fitt, together with some Church Catechisms for the usè of the Boys.

2. Agreed that the Consideration of the List for supplying the Vacancies in the Correspondence be adjourned to the next meeting.

3. Mr. Bridges being call'd in,

4. He reported that Mr. Thomas, the Sollicitor to the Generall Subscriptions for Schools is now ready to enter upon the s^d^ Business, in such methods as the Society shall direct.

5. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Sturmy of Merton be an Additional Correspondent for Surrey, being recommended by Mr. Bromfield.

6. Mr. Stubbs presented from Mr. Windham MS. Treatise call'd an Admonition to Parish Officers.

7. Ordered that S^r^ John Philips do shew it to Mr. Windham, and desire that the Author may allow the Society to amend and fitt it for the Press.

8. Mr. Bugg being call'd in,

9. He desired that the Society would pay sixteen pounds, tenn shillings, which the Society give's him Creditt for with their Stationer and Bookseller.

10. Mr. Treasurer reported that it would be inconvenient to the Society to pay this money now, and desired that his accounts might be audited.

11. Resolved that the Treasurer's accounts be audited here before a Committee on this day seavennight at 2 o'Clock.

12. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, S^r^ John Phillips, Mr. King, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Collins, Col. Colchester, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Comyns, and Mr. Serjeant Hook be that Com^tee^.

13. Mr. Wesley's account of the Religious Society at Epworth was again read according to order.

14. Ordered that Mr. Wesley be desired to attend at next Meeting about the Charity School mentioned in his said account.

15. The Secretary laid before the Society a Latin Letter from Mr.

Klingler the Antistes of Zurich,[1] in the name of Zurich, Bern, Basil, Schaffhausen, Glawris, Apenzel, & St. Gall, in answer to that Letter sent by this Society to the Switz Churches.

[1] This and the following letter are taken from a MS. book containing copies of some letters received by the Society from 1699 till 1702. The copyist was unfamiliar with Latin, and has transcribed the original badly, omitting here and there words he could not make out, and failing to observe intelligible punctuation. The copy has been strictly followed except where a misreading has been manifest.—EDITOR.

ILLUSTRISSIMI REVERENDISSIMI ATQ. GENEROSISSIMI
VIRI, PATRES AC FRATRES IN CHRISTO SUMME VENERABILES.

Prout in universa hominum societate præstantius, jucundiusque nihil est, quam mutua inter se concordia et amicitia, quâ seu glutino quodam, quasi in alterum quoddam corpus compinguntur mortales, ita in Ecclesia Christi nihil Domino Jesu nostro gloriosius, quam vinculum illud religionis, quo fidei ejusdem socij ad mutuam eorumdem in omni virtute ac gratia ædificationem inter se innectuntur . . . . quam unus in omnibus spiritus format efficit ac fovet in omnibus iis qui animos suos in obsequio veritatis sanctificarunt (1 Petr. i. v. 2) flagrantes, Charismata gratiæ . . . quæ non unij sed toti . . . concessa per exemplum, exhortationes . . . consolationes, orationes et preces, consilia, auxilia quin est dona corporalia ita ut ergo se invicem libenter impertientes ac communicabiles sint (1 Tim. vi. v. 18) ad multorum usum comodum atq. honore totius Corporis dispensent atq. impertiantur. Hæc est decantata illa Sanctarum Eclesiarum et Sanctorum in ea membrorum in his terris militantium Communio quâ nulla inter homines arctior et Sanctior Conjunctio et Con essaratio [*sic*] est utpote quam unum Corpus, unus Spiritus, una Spes vocationis, unus dominus, una fides, unum baptisma, unus Deus et pater omnium, qui est super omnes et per omnes in omnibus; seu totidem vincula pacis et Charitatis (ad Ephes. iv. v. 3), potentissima, adamantino, et indissolubili nexu adstringunt. Hanc sanctissimam Ecclesiarum unionem atq. Comunionem nostro ævo . . . tantum non silentio . . . Sopitam, ex pertinaci suo atque Ecclesiis pernicioso sopore ciere, et in apricum producere, prorsus admirabili Cælestiq. instinctu acti studetis vos Viri Illustrissimi, Reverendissimi; atq. ad hoc divinum . . . encomio satis celebrandum studium quam humanissime invitatis atq. excitatis Ecclesias nostras Helveticas ut a vobis a locorum . . . intercapedine remotiores, fidei tamen stet charitatis nexu vobis dudum conjuntissimas atq. si dicere fas fit . . . coalitas et conglutinatas. Possem equidem multis exponere, quanta superiori seculo Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ cum Helvetica, imprimis Tigurina consuetudo et necessitudo intercesserit quamq. arctam antecessores mei, Bellingerus, Gualterus, Lavaterus, aliiq. cum gloriosissimis Martyribus, Cranmero Cantuariensi Arch-Episcopo, Hoopero Wigorniensi et Glocestriensi Episcopo, fortissimo callinico, et postea Juello, Johanne Parkusto* et Jacobo Pilkintono† etiam Episcopis, aliisq., pene inumeri. (Quorum plures, Maria Tyrannice regnante et Cardinale Polo obstetricante Tigurum tanquam asylum

* John Parkhurst, Bp. of Norwich, 1560.
† James Pilkington, Bp. of Durham, 1561.

16. Ordered that the Secretary do carry this Letter to the Bishop of Chichester or to Dr. Manningham, and that he do desire either of

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confugerunt, quorumq; amabili presentiâ sacrata adhuc hospicia magna cum voluptate visimus) amicitiam coluerint. Extant frequentissimæ literæ in archivis sive Scriniis nostris publicis, fidei mea domi comisiss, à magnis illis heroibus' ad nostros exaratæ, aliaq; copiosissima manuscriptorum Anglicanorum cimelia, quæ ante annos nonnullos Reverendissimus Episcopus Salisburiensis Doctor Burnetus cum summâ delectatione ruspatus est, et quæ Principes et Barrones Anglicæ gentis, non nunquam per Tigurum nostrum [iter?] facientes non sine admiratione conspicere solent: accedit comercium quod ante nonnulla annorum lustra cum . . .* Lincolniacensi [Episcopo] cujus benevolentiam dudum cum adhuc Oxoniæ Sanctæ professionis Theologicæ summâ cum laude [officium] exornaret, erga me singularem expertus sum, et a duodecenio cum Illustrissimo Henrico † Londinensi, Heroe omne encomium supergresso habui frequentissimum . . . In præsentiam longè majora Ecclesia nostra Tigurina cæteræq; Ecclesiæ Helveticæ cum quibus institutum vestrum, Viri Illustrissimi atq; Reverendissimi, comunicavi, earumq; suffragia collegi, sperant incrementa ex Societate vestra Regia authoritate stabilita de propagando apud terros Evangelio, gloriosumq; sibi ducunt quod dignæ habitæ fuerint quibus institutum vestrum verè Divinum atq; Apostolicum comunicetur, quæq; ad ejus participium tam honorifice vocentur, atq; oblato de illo literarum comercio familiarius admittantur.

Exosculantur utrumq; summa reverentia, ac prout Deo clementissimo sumas laudes canunt quod nonnumquam conclamatis atq; exulceratis his temporibus, organa suæ gratiæ suscitatiisq; solidæ pietatis ac veritatis propagandæ solidæ . . . propagandæ animum ardoremq; inspirat, ita gratulantur vestræ Illustrissimæ Societati (utpote quam Deus . . . ad arduum hoc pietatis diu calidis votis expeciñ [expetitum?] studium ex insperato inflamavit) paratissimæ ut in acie Jehovæ postrema non committendj [?] ut remissior de gloria Dei et Ecclesiæ ejusdem salute cura iis exprobari queat sed potius precibus, auxilio et consilio, pro virili portione eo committendj [?], ut communis Ecclesiæ orthodoxæ causa promoveatur, contra insidias, quas Communio Romana ei nunquam non struxit et struit, animose et strenue defendatur, fædis erroribus et scandolosis criminibus, quibus hinc inde . . . magis magisq; defæcetur, deo in pia vota jugiter vocato, ut successu optato nos utrinq; beare comodaque conatuum nostrorum ad universam Christi Ecclesiam derivare haud quaquam dedignetur. Igitur virtute vestra vos viri vere Apostolici credite, et laudabili vestro exemplo tenuitates nostras haud parum comotas atq; ad vestri imitationem studio gloriæ dei incensas, quo ipso nomine debendarum imensarum gratiarum reos nos profitemur. Idq; nempe decebat magnos Ecclesiæ orthodoxæ præsules, quibus cum maxime diœceses commissæ sint, ipsi tamen animo majore angustiores virtute suâ cancellos egressi, et suis felicissime invigilant et aliena preterea recipiunt amplæq; mentis et extentissimæ charitatis ulnis universam Christi Ecclesiam complectuntur, providâque suacurâ teneriq; affectu ad ipsas sub alio cælo, aliud solum [*sic*], extremas, quippe Africæ et Americæ oras

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* Doubtless Sanderson, who was Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, 1642.

† Henry Compton, Bp. of London, 1675.

them to communicate it to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to know their Sentiments whether they will think fitt to correspond with the Helvetic Churches or not.

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habitantes prolatæ [sunt]. Ô beatas Ecclesias quibus Deus ineunte hoc seculo de tam vigilacibus in custodia . . . nobis præducentibus, cujus beneficii vivam etiam imaginem consecuti sumus in generosissimo Barone de Hales viro singularibus virtutibus prædito et studio . . . cujus conversatio nihil nisi exemplarem pietatem, candorem, morumq; haud fucosam sanctitatem et concordiæ in veritate Zelum Spirans, inter nos est et manebit deinceps ingentis ædificationis summiq; desiderii, quia optima anima, sanctissimum illum fidei articulum Communionem Sanctorum quem ore allii profitentur, oppere mutifariam demonstrat nosq; suorum solatiorum participes reddit editione suis sumtibus plurium libellorum gratis inter pauperioros distribuendorum, in quibus exercitium veræ praxeos christianæ docet: nihil prorsus huic auro scoriarum admiscet, nihil Fanatici Schismatici, nihil quod arrogantiam spiritualem aut hypocriticam sanctitatis affectionem sapiat, sed omnia ad synceram humilem solidam pietatem componit. Hic est verus pietismus quô vos, viri Illustrissimi atq; Reverendissimi, cum Barrone vestro nobis cõmendatissimo, Germanis nostris, medium tenere sæpe nesciis, et ad varia extrema prolabi nimium promptis, pulcherime prælucetis.

Quare¡ pleræq; Ecclesiæ nostra juxta votum vestrum, certos viros jam dedesignaverunt, qui nomine cujusq; Ecclesiæ communicent cum Illustrissimâ vestrâ societate, si ad eam vel scribendam vel ei nos scribenti respondendum fit, præstolantur tamen ante ingressum in hoc literarum cõmercium aliquem typum juxta quem cõmercium illud instituendum, cujus typi constructionem in Illustrissimæ vestræ Societatis, multifario rerum usu prudentiâ, experientiâ, atq; authoritate maxima pollentis, sinum in solidum devolvunt, eiq; unanimiter submittunt.

Quod verò Viri Illustrissimi â nobis certiores reddi desideretis quæ sint apud nos societates, quibus studium, quod vos profitemini, curæ cordiq; sit? tametsi me haud lateat plerisq; Ecclesiis nostris nihil deesse quod ad propagationem veritatis et in vita sanctitatis conducit ut præter statutorum executionem, quæ quandoq; remissior justo [est], vix quicquam desiderari queat. Loquetur tamen proxime unaquaq; Ecclesia pro se; paucis nunc exponam, quæ Societates huc spectantes celebrentur apud nos in Ecclesiâ Tigurinâ. Est primo Coetus, qui usitata nobis voce dicitur Examinatorum qui ex quatuor politicis duobus primariis Senatoribus, bonisq; ducentum viris ex parœciarum pastoribus et professoribus canonicis omnibus colligitur: Estq; Magistratus in Causis Ecclesiasticis Supremus, cui cura Ecclesiarium Tigurinæ ditionis et vicinarum provinciarum, quæ cõmuni aliquot Helvetiorum imperio parent, omnium credita est: Hic de rebus Ecclesiæ omnibus deliberat solus, nisi ubi inciderint gravioris momenti causæ cum proficitiis, atq; exterarum Ecclesiarum gravamina quæ tunc ad Magistratum deferuntur: Hos omnes convocat Cœtuiq; præest Antistes, ad quem omnes causæ Ecclesiasticæ potissimum referuntur qui tamen cæteris inconsultis nihil Ecclesiæ nomine agit vel scribit. Inopia Ecclesiarum sive patriarum sive exterarum variis Remediis sublevatur tum ex ærario publico Magistratus tum ex reditibus Canonicorum qui suos reditus, prædia feuda et jura cætera, quæ ad præposituræ salutem, dignitatemq; spectant, quibusq; præest præpositus, vel redituum œconomus, qui ex eodem Collegio vel Archdiacon est vel professor,

21 May, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. John Hodges.
Mr. Shute in the Chair.

1. Ordered that Dr. Woodward's 2 Pieces about Confirmation, &

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ipsimet tuentur, tum etiam ex Collectis extraordinariis tam publicis quam privatis. Unde a duodecenio tot centena millia fluxerunt in subsidium atq; solatium exulum ex Gallia Pedemontio Palatinata laborantium et damnatorum ad triremes, aliarumq; Ecclesiarum tam extructarum quam extruendarum et sustentandarum in vallibus Walldensium et Germania vicina atq; remotiore.

Alia Societas quæ huc spectat est forum censorium, in quo Censores, politici omnium rerum circa morum disciplinam cognitionem animadvertionemq; habent; inquirunt enim quid contra honestatem publicam legesq; vestiarias œconomicas, vel luxu, vel alea, vel jurgiis, vel turpiloquiis vel aliis obcœnitatibus ex civitate ejiciendis impingatur quoq; se quis modo domi suæ intra Laris penetralia erga uxorem liberos, erga servos, erga propinquos, necessarios vicinos geret unde victus et amictus, quis opum usus, quis abusus, quis focus et mensa?

Huic accedit Dicasterium sive forum matrimoniale mixtum ex politicis et Ecclesiasticis, quod et Consistorium generale audit in quo non tantum casus matrimoniales tractantur, sed insuper disciplina Ecclesiastica exercetur contra scandalosos anticipatores, scatatores, adulteros, blasphemos, ebriosos, calumniatores, temereq; litigantes ac similes farinæ homines. Ut vero hæc duo fora partibus sui officii rite defungantur, convocatur de trimestri in trimestre spatium ter geminum Collegium cui intersunt utriusq; fori præsides cum nonnullis membris, et quatuor parœciarum pastores cum Archidiaconis, totiq; Collegio præest Antistes, qui ministerii urbici nomine proponit, quid circa mores emendandum atq; corrigendum desideretur, ne labes contagii instar latius serpat, seq; mutuis exhortationibus, ut quivis suo loco officium demandatum fideliter præstet extimulant.

Restat ut verbo aliquid de Synodis nostris semestribus addam: constat Synodus Tigurina ex membris plus quàm ter centenis eamq; moderatur suo præsidio Antistes, inquiritur in ea in omnium membrorum studia industriam, mores doctrinam, instruitur singulorum censura, ac in delinquentes pro ratione delicti quod æquum est statuitur: Gravamina Ecclesiarum audiuntur, diluuntur, et si quid gravius accidat quàm ut in solenni hoc conventu tollatur, id delegatis ex magistratu in Synodo præsentibus, inter quos semper sunt alter Consul aliiq; primarii senatores, enixe commendatur ad magistratum vel minorem vel majorem deferendum, quo is pro suâ quâ pollet authoritate, morbo vel vulneri Ecclesiæ tempestivè medeatur: præcipuè vèrò severissimis exhortationibus universo ministerio inculcantur visitationes domesticæ atq; . . . tam publicæ quam privatæ, prout catecheticus cursus quovis anno recurrente in, urbe bis in agro semel, et . . . et dialogisticè et exegeticè cum Juventute. . . . asolvi debet. Sed vos, Viri Illustrissimi, Reverendissimi, nimium moratus sum; Colophonis loco effundo me in callidissima vota, supplex factus Deo optimo maximo, aterna ut fit Ecclesia vestra Brittannica Religio inviolata, societas vestra illibata, patres incolumes, satorum necessitas tarda, consilia

another little Tract about Family Prayers, be added to the ordinary Packetts which are sent to the Correspondents.

2. Resolved that the Treasurer do send to those Gentlemen that are in arrears to the new Subscription for payment of the Debt due to Dr. Bray, in order to reimburse Mr. Trymmer of that £30 which he advanced towards it.

3. Ordered that the Secretary do write to the said Gentlemen, and send his Letters to the Treasurer.

4. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Tho. Collins of Swansey be an additional Correspondent for Glamorganshire.

5. Agreed that a Summ not exceeding £15 be laid out in good Books and Papers for the use of the Seamen on board her Majesty's Fleet, in the manner :—

£10 in Mr. Stubbs' Sermons,[1]
£4 in Cautions against Swearing,
£1 in Church Catechisms.

6. Ordered that Mr. Stubbs be desired to send his Parcell to Mr. Hodges, Chaplain Generall of the Fleet.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do advertise Mr. Hodges that this Gift is now coming to him.

8. Mr. Stubbs brought back the MS. Treatise call'd an Admonition to Parish Officers, and laid it before the Society, the Author being willing to have it corrected.

9. Ordered that Mr. Comyns do deliver it to the Society for Reformation of Manners, and desire them to amend it and fitt it for the Press.

10. The Secretary reported that there is come another Latin Letter from Dr. Klingler the Antistes of Zurich in the name of the Protestant Churches of Switzerland.[2]

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benedicta, et Communionis Sanctorum, hoc deplorato ævo necessariæ nexus, magis magisq; adstrictus. Valete Viri Illustrissimi Reverendissimi boniq; Consulite hoc quicquid est responsi.

Ecclesia Tigurina Bernensis
Basileensis Scaphuliensis* Gravonensis,†
Abbati Scellana‡—St. Gallensis
horumq; nomine
Theol. Doctor Antestes Tiguring.
Antonus Killinglerus ss

[1] "God's Dominion over the Seas; and the Seaman's Duty, considered." London: 1701. "The Sea-Assize; or Seafaring Persons to be judged according to their Works." London: 1709. Both by Rev. Philip Stubbs, B.D., Rector of St. James', Garlick Hithe.

[2] VIRI ILLUSTRISSIMI, REVERENDISSIMI, GENEROSISSIMI, PATRES AC FRATRES IN CHRISTO PLURIMUM SUSPICIUNDI.

Quamvis meritò vereamur ne in sum̃o illo et publico in quo nunc versamini Viri Illustr: et Reverendiss: Regni et Ecclesiæ vestræ luctu, vel importunius

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* Schaffhausen. † Glarus. ‡ Appenzell.

11. Ordered that the Secretary do translate this and the Antistes's former Letter, and bring them to the next meeting.

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loqueamur et recens et adhuc hians gravissimum vulnus tractando potiu exasperemus quàm leniamus; non possumus tamen nobis temperare, quin funesto Eheu! atq; lamentabili, qui aures nostras perculit nuncio accepto de acerbissimo, beato tamen, Regis vestri Guilelmi sine exemplo maxime atq; gloriosissimi fato, ad vos Viri Illustris: Reverendis: gemebundi accuramus, ut si dolorem vestrum sustisimum, quem maximum esse non dubitamus mitigare non possumus, saltem lachrymas nostras vestris comisceamus vobis tenerrimo affectu condoleamus et vere fraternam et intimam [amicitiam] nostram vobis serio contestemur. Et sane cujus animus tam ferreus esse potest qui tanti Regis Regumq; coronæ casum inopinatum in consistente ætate callidissimis lachrymis non comploret? Quis luctuosissimam illam, quam fecistis jacturam animo reputare queat, qui in suspiria et gemitus non erumpat manumq; Dei gravissimam percutientem non presentiscat? Coñoventur præ dolore viscera nostra! verba desunt rebus iñensis, nec se animus explicare potest ingenti mœrore circumfusus ac debilitatus! Ô dura fata, Ô fallaces spes et rerum vicissitudines! Dole nunc et ingemisce O Magna Brittania veluti parturiens, die noctuq orba nunc es et solitaria quia Corona gloriæ de capite tuo descendit, lumen tuum obtenebratum est, lucerna tua extincta, et sol tuus occidit! Væ seculo cum luminaria percutiuntur, quia signum malum est generationibus! Quis exsurget tibi hoc tempore in locum eius? Quis geret gloriam instrumentorum ejus pheretram et arcum ejus? cur igitur non indoleremus conjunctissimorum in Christo fratrum malis, quos novimus et quotidie experimur, tam serio et tam intime nostris comoveri et affici? Cur non juxta Vobiscum Viri Illustrissimi Reuerendissimi lamenteremur patriæ pericula et iñinentes undq; judiciorum diei Dei prodromos, quorum ordinem plerumq; ingrediuntur etiam hujus modi syderum occasus?

Verum non hæc nobis est, licet meritissima tantum Regem deflendi sessusq; [*sic*] nostros sympatheticos vestris sociandi ratio. Jactura hæc vestra non privata est sed publica et comunis; quæ non Brittaniam solum vestram, sed cunctas protestantes, eas et transmaritinas Ecclesias, imò universum Europæum orbem cujus unicum post Deum præsidium atq; refugium summumq; decus fuit et ornamentum afflixit.

Habet quod lugeat Ecclesia et Republica, tanta munimenta atq; fulcimenta qualia Deus non nisi iratus mundo subducit. Amisit suum tutatorem Brittania, suum propugnatorem Belgica, suum imperatorem exercitus, suum defensorem fides, suum pacis belliq; arbitrum omnis Europa suum vindicem cuncti ob religionem extorres oppressi palantesq;! Occidit âternâ et caliginosâ nocte splendidissimum simul ac benignissimum si quod aliud orbem collustravit afflavitq; sidus quod vel solâ Ñominis umbrâ Ecclesiam atq; Republicam, recreavit. Cecidit Heros supra omnes omnium retrò ætatum Augustus, quem veneratus est Anglus, amavit Batavus, coluit Germanus, adoravit propemodum Helvetius ac ipse suspexit ringens renitensq; Gallus, qui hodie usurpare dicitur memorandam vocem Metelli Macedonici, cum esset nunciata mors Scipionis Æmiliani, cum quo vivente civiles inimicitatis exerceret hoc modo filios suos amplissimis usos honoribus cohortatus esse fertur. Ite filii, celebrate exsequias, nunquam majoris civis funus videbitis! occubuit præcipitata morte princeps in cujus unius fortitudine tot gentes, tot populi, tot spirantes animæ, salutem, libertatem, spes, fortunasq; suas repositas arbitrantur. Non indignemur

28 May, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Slare, Dr. Bray, Mr. Neale.
Mr. Shute in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Consideration of the List for Supplying the Vacancies in the Correspondence be adjourned to the next meeting.

2. Resolved that Mr. Thomas the Sollicitor to the Generall Subscriptions for Schools do wait on the Resident Members of this Society, and in the name of the Society desire them to mention his Business to their Acquaintance, and promote it as far as they are able.

3. Ordered that the Secretary do deliver to Mr. Thomas a Copy of this Resolution, and a List of the Resident Members of this Society.

4. Mr. Windham approv'd, and Mr. Stubbs to desire his Attendance.

5. Ordered that Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, & Mr. Chamberlayne do wait on S[r] Geo. Rook, Mr. Hill, &c., and conferr with them about obtaining a Summ of money from the Prince of Denmark toward the

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sævæ ac ferali libitinæ, quæ Dei jussa est exequuta, at indigne:nur peccatis nostris quibus Deus ad iram provocatus, justus ipse scelerum vindex et ultor, nos benificiorum in nos collatorum indignos contemtores, regis tanti jacturâ punivit atq[ꝫ] gloriâ Deo tributâ id unice atq[ꝫ] enixissimè deprecemur, ne commune fatale[q] omnis Europa, omnis Ecclesia bustum sequatur hunc casum Regium, isq[ꝫ] præsagus sit maximarum calamitatum et funestissimi in Ecclesia et Republica naufragii: ut enim sublatis divino judicio Regiis hisq[ꝫ] columnis, Ducibus atq[ꝫ] gubernatoribus civitatum populorumq[ꝫ], ruinam, tenebras, errores, sublata dissipertiones [*sic*], clades, naufragia, animi corporisq[ꝫ] interitum ut plurimum sequi, rebus et experiundo est cognitum sed mala omnia Deus avertat, nec perficiat auguria, quæ sunt in tristi multorum animo! Eumdem ardentissimis precibus oremus ut eum Ecclesiæ Reipublicæ inflictum nimis alte vulnus clementer obliget, tum vos viros Illustris: atq[ꝫ] Reverendis: Spiritus sui sancti gratia atq[ꝫ] solatio erigat, Reginam præprimis vestram serenissimam cui Guilelmus Magnus decedens lampada sceptrumq[ꝫ] tradidit suâ virtute ita instruat ut in defuncti Herois decus et gloriam feliciter adsurgat, omnia prostrata instauret, luctus nostros atq[ꝫ] ægritudines abstergat, omnemq[ꝫ] penè Europæum orbem tot malis fessum, tot incendii ac Gallici furoris vestigiis vastatum atq[ꝫ] horridum in pristinam lucem, pacem et securitatem asserat, quo in summam senectam veniat vindex libertatis, frœnum tyrannidis, terror potentissimi hostis, Christiani orbis præsidium, asylum Religionis et veluti statera ad quam rerum maximarum et consiliorum momenta exigantur simul etiam vobis Viri Illustrissimi Reverendissimi Ecclesias nostras, quæ vinculo arctiori conglutinari vobis gestiunt, sum̃opere com̃endamus; et ut per Dei gratiam vobis prospera et lata omnia eveniant, ex imis animi penetralibus. Ita vovent

Ecclesiæ Helveticæ harumq[ꝫ] nomine
Antonius Klinglerus
Antistes Tiguring.

Tiguri Helvet. 22 Aprilis, 1702.

furnishing her Majesty's Seamen and Souldiers on board the Fleet with good Books.

6. Ordered that the Reverend Mr. Samuel Peploe be a Corresponding Member for Preston in Lancashire, being recommended by Mr. Serjeant Hook.

7. Ordered that Mr. Stubbs be the Chairman for the Ensuing month.

8. The Translation of a French Letter from Mr. De Beringhen, with the Translation of the Orders of a Society at Berlin, was read.

9. Ordered that the Secretary do draw up an Answer, and lay it before the Society at next meeting.

10. The Translation of a Latin Letter from Mr. Scherer was read.

11. The Translation of a Latin Letter from Mr. Vith the Antistes of Schaffhausen to Mr. Hales was read.

12. The Translations of 2 Latin Letters from Dr. Klingler the Antistes of Zurich, in the name of the Protestant Switz Churches, were read.

13. The Translation of a French Letter from Mr. Ostervald of Neufchatel to Mr. Masson, was read.

14. Ordered that the absent Members be Summoned to attend at the next meeting, about Business of Great moment.

4 June, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, S^{r} Edmund Turner, S^{r} Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Dean of Lincoln, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Gerard, Dr. Bray, Dr. Nichols.

Mr. Stubbs in the Chair.

1. A Debate arising about the State of a Debt due to Dr. Bray, and concerning the new Subscription towards the discharging it,

2. Agreed that Mr. Nelson and Mr. A. D. [Archdeacon] of London be desired to move the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, that their Report concerning Dr. Bray's acc^{ts} may be again read to them.

3. The Translation of Dr. Klingler's first Letter from the Protestant Churches of Switzerland was again read.

4. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Mr. Hales, and acquaint him with the Society's Intention of Procuring the Letters sent from Switz Churches to be answered by the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

5. Ordered that Dr. Klingler's first Letter be delivered to Mr. Chamberlayne.

6. The Translation of Mr. Ostervald's Letter was again read.

7. Ordered that the Secretary do deliver to Mr. Chamberlayne the

last Letters received from Dr. Klingler, Mr. Scherer, Mr. Osterwald, and the copy of Mr. Vith's.

8. Ordered that Mr. Chamberlayne be desired to communicate the said Letters to his Grace the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury, &c.

9. Mr. Stubbs reported that Mr. Chamberlayne had waited on the Lord Bishop of London and Mr. Hill, and that his Lordship was much concerned that his Royall Highness was just gone to Portsmouth, but that he would do his utmost Endeavours to induce his R.H. to answer the Desires of the Society.

10. The Translation of Mr. De Berringhen's Letter, and of the Orders of the Society at Berlin, were again read.

11. And the Secretary produced the Draught of an Answer thereunto, which was read, approvd & ordered to be sent.

12. A Letter was read from Mr. Carte of Leicester.

13. A Letter was read from Mr. A. D. Booth desiring the Advice of this Society.

14. Ordered that it be referred to Mr. Serjeant Hooke, and he to give his opinion thereupon at next meeting.

11 June, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Stubbs in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Consideration of the List for supplying the Vacancies in the Correspondence be referred to the next meeting.

2. The Secretary Reported that the Society's Books and Papers came safe, and are dispersed according to their Desires in the Gaol at Bedford.

3. A Debate arising about the State of the Debt due to Dr. Bray,

4. Ordered that it be considered by a Committee to meet at Mr. Serj^t^ Hook's on Thursday next at three o'Clock.

5. Ordered that Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Serjeant Hook, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, S^r^ John Philips, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Trymmer, or any 3 of them be that Com^tee^.

6. Ordered that the Secretary do transcribe out of the Journall all such Minutes as relate to the Debt due to Dr. Bray, and bring them to that Committee.

7. Ordered that Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, & Mr. Chamberlayne, do wait on Mr. Hill on Saturday morning at 7 o'clock.

8. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be taken into particular consideration at the first Meeting of this Society after All S^ts^ day next.

9. Mr. Serj^t^ Hook produced Mr. A. D. Booth's Letter, and said that he would take upon himself the writing an Answer to it.

10. Mr. Gardiner reported that on Tuesday last, a School was opened at St. Sepulcher's for 23 Girls, who are cloathed.

18 June, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S[r] Edmund Turner, S[r] John Phillips, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Melmouth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Serj[t] Hook.

Mr. Shute in the Chair, being deputed by Mr. Stubbs.

1. Dr. Bray reported that Col. Nicholson will give 25 Guineas to this Society.

2. Mr. Hodges reported from the Committee that mett according to order that there do's remain due to Dr. Bray the summe of one hundred and five pounds, exclusive of Mr. Trymmer's £30, the Dr. having remitted £17. 5s., with which he will charge the Corporation.

2. Dr. Bray acquainted the Society that he was willing to receive the 25 Guineas of Col. Nicholson, the Arrears that are due to the new Subscription of the Plantations, and a million Lottery Ticketts of £6. 6s. 9d. as ready money from the Society, w[ch], with £10. 9s. 6d. now remaining in Mr. Treasurer's hands, will reduce the Debt due to him to £16. 3s. 6d.

4. Resolved that Dr. Bray be hereby Impowered to receive the said severall sums, viz[t]:—

		£.	s.	d.
Col. Nicholson's Benefaction		26	17	6
Cash in the Treasurer's hands		10	9	6
Million Lottery Ticketts		6	6	6
Arrears to the new Subscription for the Plantations.	Mr. Nelson	10	0	0
	Mr. Brewster	10	0	0
	L[d] Bishop of Chichester...	2	3	0
	L[d] Guilford	23	0	0
		88	16	6

5. Mr. Melmoth acquainted the Society that Dr. Slare had offered to lend the Society any Sum that they shall think fitt (not exceeding fifty pounds) without Interest till January next.

6. The Treasurer informing the Society that there is occasion for borrowing the whole fifty pounds.

7. Resolved that the said fifty pounds be borrowed of Dr. Slare, and repaid him in January next.

8. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. Slare for his great kindness to the Society.

9. Ordered that Dr. Bray be desired to return the Thanks of the Society to Col. Nicholson, for his Benefaction to the Society.

10. Resolved that out of the said Fifty pounds to be borrowed of

Dr. Slare, the Debts due to Dr. Bray, and to Mr. Trymmer be totally discharged.

11. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

12. Mr. Skate reporting that there is a School for Boys at Aldersgate about to be opened, £42 per ann. being Subscrib'd thereunto, and that there is a great want of a present Summ w^ch^ is necessary for buying Forms and other Things, without w^ch^ the School can't be well opened, nor the Subscription advanced,

13. Mr. Hodges moved that the members then present would lay down their tenn shillings a piece, as a Gift to the said School, w^ch^ was unanimously agreed to, and accordingly £4 was presently given to the Agents for that purpose.

14. The Secretary reported that Mr. Sturmy of Merton Abbey and Mr. Peploe of Preston do accept the Correspondence.

25 June, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philips, the Secretary, Mr. Deffray a Correspondent, Mr. Chamberlayne.

Mr. Stubbs in the Chair.

1. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

2. Mr. Bridges laid before the Secretary 2 Letters proposing the Setting up a Charity School at Kidlington near Oxford. And a Debate arising thereupon,

3. Ordered that Mr. Bridges do write to his Correspondent, that the Society doe's embrace his Proposal, and will take all due care in that matter.

4. Mr. Bridges Reported that some of the Boys and Girles going to the Charity Schools, are just upon the point of being sett out, & moved that the Society would give them a fitting number of Books and Papers to be distributed amongst them.

5. Ordered that Mr. Bridges do bring to the next Meeting a List of the said Charity Schools and of the number of poor Children therein now ready to be putt out.

6. Ordered that the Secretary do write to Dr. Conant, and desire to know from him whether the Parishioners of Kidlington are inclined to erect a Charity School there.

7. Mr. Chamberlayne reported that he had waited on Mr. Hill, who informed him that he had communicated a Letter written to him by Mr. Chamberlayne to the Admiralty Board, who informed the Prince of Denmark of the Contents of it, and that his Royall Highness consulting them upon it, they were of opinion that, after what he ha's already given back to the Queen of the Prize-money, &c., there cannot be much done by him in that matter. Moreover, that Mr. Hill said 'twas the Sense of the Board that in this case application ought to be made to her Ma^ty^ by the Arch Bishop of Canterbury and the Bishop

of London, or else to the Lord Treasurer. And also that Mr. Hill expressed himself very affectionately of this Society.

8. Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne be the Chairman for the ensuing month.

9. The Secretary reported that the Books and Papers given by this Society to the Gaol at New Sarum came safe, & were partly given & partly lent to the Prisoners there.

10. Agreed that now Dr. Bray's debt is paid off, every Resident Member shall for the future, upon his admission, subscribe such a sum as he shall think fitt towards Promoting Charity Schools, to be paid forthwith, besides his Quarterly Subscription.

11. Ord^{d} that the Secretary do draw up such a Form of Subscription & lay it before the Society at next meeting.

12. Mr. Shute mov'd that Dr. Woodward's 2 Pieces ab^{t} Confirmation, & the other Tract about Family Prayers, may be sent to all the Correspondents.

13. Ord^{d} that six of each of the said Tracts be sent to the Correspondents, & that the Treasurer & Secretary see this done.

14. Ord^{d} that it be a standing order of this Society that no Sum exceeding 40s. shall be dispos'd of in the absence of the Treasurer.

15. Ord^{d} that it be enter'd amongst the Standing Orders of the Society.

16. Ord^{d} that the Absent Members be sumon'd to attend at next meeting.

9 July, 1702.

Present: Mr. Waddington, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, S^{r} Jn^{o} Philips, The Secretary, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Deffray a Corresp^{t}, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair.

1. S^{r} W^{m} Beeston, the late Gov^{r} of Jamaica, who was chosen a Residing Member 18 Nov^{r} last, being arriv'd, Ord^{d} that Dr. Bray & Mr. Hodges do acquaint him that this Society did choose him a Member, and do desire his attendance.

2. Order^{d} that a Copy of the Translation of Mad^{m} Hortensia de Salis's Life be deliver'd to Mr. Yeats.

3. Dr. Slare reported that Mr. Delaver of Essex would contribute £5 per ann., commencing at Midsummer last, for Promoting the Designs of this Society.

4. He also reported that Mr. Neal had given £100 towards the Erecting a Working Charity School in St. Andrew's Parish for the whole Maintenance of Ten Girls, and that it was Open'd last Monday.

5. The Agents for Schools being call'd in, Mr. Mitchell reported that they are about to take 30 Girls Cloath'd, into the Charity Schools at St. Clements.

6. A Letter read from Dr. Conant of Kidlington, who Promises to write again.

7. Ord^{d} That Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Hodges, or any 3 of them do meet here this day sennight at 4 o'Clock precisely, and then audit the Acc^{ts} of the moneys sent to the Corporation by this Society, towards Passing their Charter, and of the Payment of y^{e} same.

8. A Letter read from Mr. Foster of Deverel.

9. Order^{d} that the Secy. do return him an Answ^{r} of Thanks.

10. A Letter was read from Mr. W^{m} Hodges ab^{t} Dispersing the Books & Papers given by this Society to the Fleet.

11. The Secy. brought in, according to order, a new form of Subscription for Schools ; resolv'd that this Subscription be not limited to any one Article of the Designs of this Society.

12. Ord^{d} that the Secy. do draw up a New Form, & bring it to the next meeting.

16 July, 1702.

Present : Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, S^{r} John Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair.

1. Order'd that the Agents for Schools be putt in mind of the List of Poor Children in the Charity Schools now ready to be putt out, w^{ch} they are to lay before the Society for a Gift of Books & Papers to be distributed among them.

2. Ord^{d} that the last mention'd Com^{tee} be reviv'd, and meet here on this day Sevennight at 4 o'Clock.

3. The Secy. laid before the Society the New Form of Subscription, w^{ch} was read, & wth some Amend^{ts} approv'd.

4. Ord^{d} that it be forthwth enter'd into the Book of Orders & Subscriptions.

5. The Translation of a French Letter from Monsieur de Berringhen was read.

6. A Letter from Mr. Keith (dated from Boston, N. Engl^{d}) to Mr. Chamberlayne was read.

23 July, 1702.

Present : Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Hodges, Dr. Slare, Mr. Gerrard.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair.

1. Mr. Gerrard brought 2 Guineas, being a Gift to this Society from a Gentleman who desires to be unknown.

2. Ord^{d} that Mr. Gerrard do return him the Thanks of the Society.

3. The Agents for Schools being called in, Mr. Michell reported that Mr. Skate had lately been at St. Albans, & had recommended to the Minister there the Erection of a Charity School, w^{ch} Motion was

very well rec[d] by them. And that the Rev[d] Mr. Fotheringall, Minister of St. Stephens, does desire to Correspond with this Society.

4. Ord[d] that Mr. Fotheringall be a Corresponding Member for St. Albans in Hertfordshire.

5. Ord[d] that 500 Serious Exhortations to Housekeep[s] be deliver'd to the Agents for Schools, together with 100 Pastorall Letters, to distribute according to their Discretion.

6. Resolved that Mr. Shute be Chairman for the month Ensuing.

30 July, 1702.

Present: Dr. Littell, Dr. Bray, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secy., who, not being a Quorum, adjourn'd to this day sennight.

6 August, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secy., who, not being a Quorum, adjourn'd to this day sennight.

13 August, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Dr. Bray, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Chamberlayne, The Secy., Mr. Sturmy a Corr., Mr. Gerrard.

Mr. Shute in the Chair.

1. Ord[d] that Dr. Brinck, a Danish Minister of Copenhagen, be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

2. Ord[d] that the Agents for Schools be putt in mind of the List of Poor Children ready to be putt out, w[ch] they are to lay before this Society.

3. Ord[d] that Mr. Hodges be putt in mind of the Report that he was desir'd to make from the last Com[tee].

4. The Agents being call'd in, Mr. Skate Reported that there are now 32 Boys taken in at Aldersgate School.

5. A Letter was read from Mr. Hales at Zurich, dated 9 Aug[st].

6. A Letter was read from Mr. Tatam of Sutton-on-the-Hill, together with a Printed Ord[r] of Sessions holden at Derby.

7. Ord[d] that the s[d] Printed Ord[r] with a Copy of the Letter be deliver'd to the Society for Reformation of Manners.

8. A Motion being made for some Practicall Books to be distributed amongst the Sick and Wounded in the Hospitalls in & about London, Ord[d] that Mr. Hodges be desired to lay a specimen of such Books, &c., as he shall think proper, before this Society at next Meeting, in order to be distributed amongst them.

9. Mr. Hodges also moved that some of this Society's Books & Papers may be distributed amongst the Poor Children in the Workhouse in Bishopsgate-street.

10. Resolv'd y[t] this Motion be taken into Consideration at next meeting.

20 August, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs (who was obliged to go away), Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secy., who, not being a Quorum, adjourned to this day sennight.

27 August, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Chamberlayne, who, not being a Quorum, adjourned to this day sennight.

3 September, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secy., who, not being a Quorum, adjourn'd to this day sennight.

10 Septemb, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, Mr. Bromfield, the Secretary, who, not being a Quorum, adjourned to this day sennight.

17 September, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Serjeant Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Slare, The Secy., Mr. Barclay a Correspondent.

Mr. Stubbs in the Chair.

1. Ord^{d} that Mr. Stubbs be the Chairman for the End of the Ensuing month.

2. Mr. Barclay moved that a competent number of Seamen's Monitors and other of the Society's Papers may be Distributed amongst the Seamen on bord the Victory in the Harbour at Portsmouth.

3. Ord^{d} that 20 Seamen's Monitors & other Papers be deliver'd by the Treasurer to Mr. Barclay, for that End.

4. Ord^{d} that a Packett be deliver'd to Dr. Slare to send to the Rev^{d} Mr. Shower at Lewes in Sussex.

5. Ord^{d} that a Packett be deliver'd Mr. Stubbs to send to Mr. Plummer.

6. Mr. Serj^{t} Hook saying that he had rec^{d} from an Unknown Hand a Manuscript Treatise concerning the Catechizing of Children, wth a Letter desiring that it might be seriously Perused; Ord^{d} that it be deliver'd to Mr. Stubbs, to be Consider'd by him, and he to make his Report at next Meeting.

7. Mr. Stubbs Reporting that a Workhouse and Charity School was about to be sett up in his Parish of St. Elphege, and he desiring the Advice of this Society about it; Ord^{d} that the Agents for Schools do wait on Mr. Stubbs, & assist him in the best manner they can.

8. The Agents being call'd in, and Mr. Skate presenting a letter from S^{r} John Philipps, who desires 2 doz. of Seamen's Monitors, ord^{d} that the Treasurer do deliver him the s^{d} number of Books.

24 September, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secretary, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Shute.

Mr. Stubbs in the Chair.

1. Ord^{d} that Mr. Hodges be putt in mind of the Report that he was desir'd to make from the last Com^{tee}.

2. Dr. Bray mov'd that he might have a Subscription Roll for a School which is about to be sett up at Chelsea.

3. Ord^{d} that the Agents do furnish the Dr. Accordingly.

4. Mr. Stubbs giving a Farther Account of the Workhouse and School w^{ch} are ab^{t} to be sett up in the Parish of Elphege, Resolv'd that this Society will ensure to the s^{d} School & Workhouse the sum of Seven Pounds for the first Quarter, to be repaid when their Subscriptions are compleated.

5. Ord^{d} that the Consideration of the Minutes of the 13 Aug., relating to Mr. Hodges, be adjourn't till he is present.

6. Mr. Stubbs presented a Paper drawn up by the Gov^{rs} for the Poor of the City of London, about the visitacion of the Workhouse in Bishop's Gate Street, & Instructing the Poor Vagrants therein by Sermons, every Lord's Day or every month, as shall be thought meet.

7. Ord^{d} that the Consideration of this matter be refer'd to the Divines of this Society.

8. The Secretary offering the Translation of severall Papers from Switzerland, ord^{d} that they be read at a full meeting.

1 October, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Collins, The Secy., Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Barclay a Correspondent.

Mr. Stubbs in his Chair.

1. The Agents for Schools being call'd in, Mr. Gardiner laid before the Society a Copy of Part of y^{e} Will of Mr. Rowe, deceased, relating a Great Charity bequeathed by him for the Education & Maintenance of Poor Children in the Parish of St. Sepulcher's.

2. Mr. Barclay reported that the Ship Victory is now paying off, & the Seamen about to be discharged, so that the Society's intended Gift of Books to them cannot come time enough.

3. Mr. Serj^{t} Hook brought in the MS. about Catechising of Children, w^{ch} Mr. Stubbs received and undertook to peruse.

4. Mr. Barclay proposed to the Society the Erecting of a Charity School near St. Catherine's for Seamen's Children, to be maintain'd by a Charitable Contribution of Seamen when they receive their Pay. This Proposall the Society receiv'd, & desir'd Mr. Barclay to bring in writing his thoughts ab^{t} this matter to the next Meeting.

5. The Treasurer desiring that a Com^{tee} might be appointed for the

auditing his Acc^ts^, Ord^d^ that the Acc^ts^ be audited by Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Collins, Mr. Hodges, or any 3 of them ; & they are to meet here this Day sennight at three o'clock.

6. Ord^d^ that Mr. Brewster be again Consulted ab^t^ the Decree in Chancery concerning the Benefaction of St. Stephens.

7. Mr. Wicks was approved, & Mr. Hodges & Mr. Trymmer to desire his attendance.

8. The Motion about giving some of the Society's Books to the Hospitalls for Sick & Wounded in & about London being taken into Consideration, Resolved that a sum not exceeding five pounds be applyed to this purpose.

9. The Motion ab^t^ giving Books to the Poor Children in the Workhouse at Bishop's Gate Street being taken into Consideration, ord^d^ that Mr. Shute & Mr. Stubbs do enquire after the number of the s^d^ Poor Children, & know what Books are proper for them being wanted in that Workhouse.

10. A Motion being made for some of the Society's Books to be distributed in the Merchants' Ships, ord^d^ that at next meeting it be Consider'd whether it may not be proper to Apply to the Severall Corporations of Merchants in this matter.

8 October, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Shute, Mr. Collins, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Barclay a Correspondent.

1. Agreed that the Minute relating to the Preaching a Sermon weekly or monthly at the Workhouse in Bishop's Gate Street, be adjourn'd till some more of the Clergy of this Society be present.

2. A Letter from Mr. Nelson, desiring that he may Apply four Pounds per ann., part of his Annual Subscription to this Society, towards two Schools in Hampshire, towards which he has very largely contributed, being read ; Agreed that Mr. Nelson have leave to apply four Pounds per annum, according to his Desire.

3. Mr. Stubbs reported that he had Consider'd of the MS. w^ch^ was refer'd to him, and is of opinion that there are so many things of that nature already Publick, that there does not seem an occasion for any more.

4. Mr. Serj^t^ Hook reports from the Com^tee^ appointed to audite the Treasurer's Acc^ts^ that they had mett & audited & sign'd the same, & that it did appear that there was due upon Ballance to the Treas^r^ the Sume of Twelve Pounds Sixteen Shillings & four Pence ; to w^ch^ Report the Society agreed.

5. Mr. Barclay gave in a Paper containing Proposals of some methods for raising a Some of Money towards y^e^ Erecting Charity Schools for the Instruction of Poor Seamen's Children in the Principles

of Christianity, w^ch being read, it was Ord^d that the said Paper be Consider'd in the first place at next meeting.

6. Mr. Stubbs reported that there are 400 Souls in the Workhouse at Bishop's Gate Street.

15 October, 1702.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Serj^t Hook, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secretary, Mr. Sturmy & Mr. Barclay Correspondents.

Mr. Shute in the Chair, Mr. Stubbs being absent.

1. Agreed that Mr. Barclay's Proposalls be adjourned to the next meeting.

2. Ord^d that the absent members be summon'd to attend at next meeting.

3. Agreed that the Minute ab^t Distributing some of y^e Society's Books and Papers in the Merchants' Ships be farther consider'd at next meeting.

Thursday, 22 October, 1702.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Collins, the Secretary, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Akers a Correspondent, Mr. Shute, Dr. Bray, Mr. Serj^t Hook, Mr. Hodges, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Barclay a Correspondent, Mr. Bromfield.

Mr. Stubs in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Minute Relating to Preaching in the Workhouse at Bishopsgate-street be adjourn'd till more of the Divines of this Society be Present.

2. Agreed that in the mean time Mr. Stubs be desired to confer with the Rev^d Dr. Altham[1] upon this subject.

3. Mr. Barclays Proposal was again Read.

4. And a Debate arising thereupon,

5. Order'd that it be again taken into consideration at the next full Meeting.

6. The Minute about furnishing the Merchants Ships with the Society Books and Papers being Debated,

7. Order'd that it be taken into farther consideration at next Meeting.

8. The Translation of a French Letter from Monsieur Calandrin Divinity Professor at Geneva to Mr. Hales was read.

9. Order'd that the French Original, together with the Orders made

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[1] Roger Altham, D.D., Archdeacon of Middlesex, author of "A Vindication of the Church of England from the foul Aspersions of Schism and Heresy;" "The Creed of Pope Pius IV.," &c. Died about 1731.

by the French Protestants on board the Gallies of France, be laid before the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

10. The Translation of the form of Public Prayers for Saturday Evening now used in the Church of Neufchatel, was read.

11. Order'd that the Original with Mr. Ostervald's last letter, be layd before the said Corporation.

12. Mr. Stubs desiring a Parcell of the Societies Books and Papers for the Officers and Seamen in his District of Woolwich,

13. Order'd that of Pastoral Letters, Christians daily Devotions, Papers against Swearing, Drunkeness, and Fornication, of each fifty ; be deliver'd to Mr. Stubs, for the aforesaid use.

Thursday, 29 October, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubs, the Secretary, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent ; and it being the Lord Mayor's day, there was no Meeting.

Thursday, 5 November, 1702.

Present: Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, the Secretary, who not being a Quorum did Adjourn to the next Meeting.

Thursday, 12 November, 1702.

Present: Sir John Philipps, Mr. Serj^{t} Hooke, the Secretary : who not being a Quorum did Adjourn to the next Meeting.

19 November, 1702.

Present: Mr. A. D. Booth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Brewster, The Secy., Mr. Chamberlayne, S^{r} George Wheeler, S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps, Mr. Lewis & Mr. Barclay Correspondents, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bromfield.

Agr^{d} that Mr. A. D. Booth be Chairman.

1. Resolved that (in pursuance of the Minute of 11 June last) the Vacancies in the Correspondence be taken into Consideration at the next full Meeting.

2. Mr. Stubbs Reported that Mr. Plummer (to whom the Society gave a Packett of Books on 11 Sept. last) has in pursuance thereof Erected a Charity School at Ashwell, near Boldoe, in Hertfordshire, wherein he has placed & cloth'd 24 Boys & Girls at his own Expence.

3. It was also reported that the Quakers are setting up a School for 150 Boys.

4. Ord^{d} that Col. Nott (the Deputy Gov^{r} of Berwick) be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

5. Mr. Barclay's Proposall relating to the Erection of Charity

Schools for the Instruction of Poor Seamen's Children being ag^n^ read, and a Debate arising thereupon, the Agents for Schools were called in, & Mr. Stubbs reporting that he had Discours'd w^th^ the King's Offic^rs^ belonging to the Yard at Woolwich, upon this subject, & that he found them very well Dispos'd towards the Erecting such a Charity School there ; Agreed that Mr. Stubbs be desir'd to confer w^th^ the Minister of Woolwich, &c., about this matter, & that he do make his Report at next meeting ; and also that he be desir'd to draw up in writing, a Proposall for y^e^ Erection of Charity Schools for the Christian Instruction of Poor Seamen's Children.

6. Ord^d^ that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Barclay for his moving this matter to the Society.

7. Ord^d^ that the Secy. do acquaint Dr. Woodward of Poplar with this matter, & that he do send Mr. Barclay's written Paper thereupon.

8. Mr. Skate reported that the School at Aldersgate for 50 Boys is Compleated ; as also that a School for 40 Girls at St. Sepulchers is Compleated ; and he also reports from Stroud in Gloucestershire that Mr. Johns the Minister has putt forth 20 Boys to severall Schools there ; & he did also farther Report that Dr. Stansfield, the Minister of Radborough, has putt forth divers poor Children to School.

9. Ord^d^ that Dr. Stansfield be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

10. Ord^d^ that the Secy. do write to Dr. Conant of Kidlington, & putt him in mind of the Letter that he promised to send ab^t^ the Erecting a Charity School there.

11. The Secretary read a Letter from Mr. A. D. Booth (w^ch^ was not done before because of y^e^ late want of meetings), wherein Mr. A. D. was pleased to give the Society an acc^t^ of div^rs^ considerable Services lately done by him to the Church. Ord^d^ that the Thanks of the Society be given to Mr. A. D. for the same.

12. Agreed that Mr. A. D. be Chairman for the month ensuing.

13. Ord^d^ that Mr. Peter Leigh, of High Leigh in Cheshire, be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

14. A Letter was read from Mr. Heart of Portsmouth relating to the Disposall of the Books sent to that Garrison by this Society.

20 November, 1702.

Present : S^r^ Jn^o^ Phillips, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Col. Colchester, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. A. D. Booth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bromfield.

Agreed that Mr. Stubbs be desir'd to take the Chair in the absence of M. A. D. Boothe, w^ch^ he did accordingly.

1. Mr. Stubbs reports that he has not yet had an opportunity of speaking with Dr. Altham ab^t^ Preaching in the Workhouse at Bishop's Gate.

2. Ord^d^ that Mr. Hodges be desir'd to Impart his Thoughts to the

Society ab^{t} furnishing the Merchants Ships wth the Society's Books against next meeting.

3. The Treasurer acquainting the Society that he was streighten'd for want of money to Discharge the severall Debts of the Society, Ord^{d} that the Treas^{r} & Secy. do call upon Mr. Brewster ab^{t} Mr. Stephens' Benefaction to-morrow morning; and that the Treasurer do prepare a State of the Debts and Charges of this Society, as also their Income, & lay the same before the Society at next Meeting.

4. Agreed that no Member do withdraw himself from this Society without a previous notice of 3 months.

5. Agreed that this Resolution be entred amongst the Standing Orders.

6. Agreed that the Standing Ord^{rs} be fairly engrost, & do lye upon the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

7. Mr. Stubbs reports that he has open'd a School for 50 Boys in his Parish of Alfeage within the Walls.

8. Ord^{d} that Mr. A. D. Booth be desir'd to write to Mr. Leigh of High Leigh, & desire him to communicate his Letter & Packett to the Dean of York & Mr. Finch his Brother.

9. Agreed that the Rev^{d} Mr. John Shore, Min^{r} of Lewis in Sussex, (be upon the motion of Dr. Slare) a Correspond^{t} of this Society.

3 December, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^{r} Edm^{d} Turnor, S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps, the Secy., Mr. Brewster, Coll. Colchester, S^{r} Geo. Wheeler, Mr. Neville, Mr. Bromfield.

S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps in the Chair, Mr. A. D. Booth being absent.

1. Ord^{d} that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be taken into Consideration at the next full meeting.

2. Agreed that Mr. Stubbs be desir'd to return the Thanks of this Society to Mr. Plum^{r} for his late great Charity in setting up his School at Ashwell.

3. Agreed that the Minute ab^{t} setting up a Quaker School at Clerkenwell be farther consider'd at next meeting.

4. Ord^{d} that the Absent Members be summon'd to attend at next meeting.

5. Ord^{d} that Mr. Stubbs be putt in mind of the Proposall that he is to draw up about the Erecting a Charity School for the Education of Poor Seamen's Children.

6. Resolv'd that every New Member, at his Admission, do subscribe to the new form of Subscription.

7. Order^{d} that this be entered as a Standing Ord^{r} of this Society.

8. The Treasurer producing a State of the Debt & Charges of this Society, & it appearing that Divers of the Members are in Arrears to their Subscription, the Paym^{t} of w^{ch} being necessary, for Discharging the Society's Debts, agreed that the Messenger do attend such of the

Residing Members of this Society as are in Arrears to their Quarterly Subscription.

10 December, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Trimmer, The Secretary, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Barclay a Correspondent, S^r^ Jn^o^ Philips, the Lord Bishop of Worcester, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Windham, the L^d^ Bishop of Chichester.

Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne do take the Chair (Mr. A. D. Booth being absent) w^ch^ Mr. Chamberlayne did accordingly.

1. Ord^d^ that Mr. Stubbs be putt in mind of Conferring w^th^ Dr. Altham ab^t^ Preaching to the Poor Vagrants in the Workhouse at Bishopsgate.

2. The Minute ab^t^ furnishing the Merchants Ships with the Society's Books and Papers being taken into Consideration ; Ord^d^ that the Secry. do wait on y^e^ Lord Bp. of Worcester with a List of the Societie's Books & Papers & one of each.

3. It being alledged that the Generall Insensibility of Religion in Seamen on bord the Merchants Ships, was the Cause of many a tall Losses & Misfortunes to their owners and others, it was resolved that a Memorial about this matter be drawn up by a Committee of the Divines & Merchants of this Society, and they with Dr. Woodward & Mr. Barclay, to meet at Child's Coffee House.

4. Ord^d^ that it be an Instruction to this Com^tee^ that they do draw up a Letter recommending this matter to the severall Masters of Ships to be sent to them, together with such Books & Papers as shall be thought necessary by this Committee.

5. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do write to Dr. Woodward & know what day he can assist at the said Com^tee^, and to inform the Gentlemen of the same.

6. The Secretary reported from Mr. Brewster that Mr. Stephens's Benefaction is in a very great forwardness of being recover'd, in all probability before the next Term.

7. Ord^d^ that Mr. Hoofenhagen, a Dutch Min^r^, be (upon the Motion of Mr. Hodges) a Correspondent of this Society.

8. Ord^d^ that Mr. Tho. Newsham be an additional Lay Correspond^t^ for Warwick, being propos'd by Dr. Bray.

9. Ord^d^ that the Rev^d^ Mr. Jn^o^ Laughton of Trinity College, & the Rev^d^ Mr. Whiston,[1] the Mathematical Professor, be Correspond^ts^ for Cambridge, being proposed by the L^d^ Bp. of Worcester.

10. The Vacancies in the Correspondence being taken into Con-

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[1] William Whiston, born 1667, died 1752, succeeded Sir Isaac Newton as Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge. He was a voluminous writer. In 1710 he was expelled the University for propagating Arianism.

sideration, & some progress being made therein, ord^{d} that it be farther Consider'd at next meeting.

11. The Agents for Schools being call'd in, & Mr. Gardiner moving the Society for some of Dr. Bray's Baptismall Covenants for the use of some Poor Children now ready to be putt out to prentice, Ord^{d} that the Treasurer do deliver to the Agents 50 of Dr. Bray's Baptismal Covenants, and 200 of Dr. Woodward's little Tracts about Confirmation, to be Distributed amongst the s^{d} Poor Children.

12. The Agents presented a Printed Paper relating to the Charity Schools commonly call'd the Grey Coat Hospital, w^{ch} was read.

13. The Minute ab^{t} the Quaker School now setting up in Clarkenwell being taken into Consideration, agreed that Mr. Stubbs be desired to acquaint the L^{d} Bp. of London with this matter.

14. Agreed that Mr. Lloyd be desir'd to acquaint the Lord Bp. of Winchester that there is a Quaker Boarding School at Wandsworth in Surrey.

15. The Secy. producing Mr. Barclay's Proposall & Dr. Woodward's Letter about it, both w^{ch} being read, ord^{d} that the s^{d} Papers be deliver'd to Mr. Stubbs, & he to draw up some Proposalls concerning this Important Affair, & to lay them before the Society at next meeting.

16. The L^{d} Bp. of Chichester reported that at his late Visitation of his Diocess he has procur'd the erecting of a Charity School at Lewes[1] in Sussex, wherein are now 50 Boys clothed, & that he is in hopes of setting up another School for girls there.

17 December, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. A. D. Booth, S^{r} Humphry Mackworth, S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Slare, Col. Colchester, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Barclay a Correspond^{t}, Mr. Windham, Mr. Lloyd.

Mr. Arch. D. Booth in the Chair.

1. A Letter being read from Mr. Bugg, wherein was Inclos'd, as he says, the state of his Case, Seal'd up, it was Ord^{d} to be Read when the Treasurer is present.

2. Mr. Barker was approved, and Col. Colchester to desire his Attendance.

3. Dr. Slare reported that Mr. Neale has Establisht his School at Deane in Bedfordshire, whereupon he has settled an Estate of between £20 & £30 per annum, for teaching gratis the Poor Children of 3 Parishes.

4. Mr. A. D. Booth reporting his opinion that S^{r} W^{m} Blackett

[1] In another copy of the minutes Lewes is scored out, and Brighthelmstone (Brighton) substituted.

might be induced by his authority and countenance very much to promote the Erection of a Charity School at Newcastle upon Tyne, Agr^{d} that Mr. A. D. Booth with Mr. Ellison & Mr. Thomlinson be desir'd to conferr wth S^{r} W^{m} Blackett upon this subject.

5. Ord^{d} that 500 of Dr. Woodward's Abstracts of the Ord^{rs} of the Religious Society be Provided by the Treas^{r} ag^{t} the next Meeting, to be Distributed by the Members of this Society in Town, and by the Corresponding Members in the Country.

6. Ord^{d} that the Secy. do lay before this Society at next Meeting a Draught of a short Circular Letter in ord^{r} to Revive the Correspondence, and to know what Charity Schools have been lately sett up where they live and in their Neighborhood.

7. The Minutes ab^{t} furnishing the Merchants' Ships wth good Books being taken into Consideration, and Dr. Woodward's and Mr. Stubbs's Letters to the Secretary being read, ord^{d} that y^{e} Secry. do desire Dr. Woodward to appoint another Day for meeting that Com^{tee} at Child's Coffee House.

8. A Letter was read from Mr. Johns of Stroud.

Thursday next being Christmas Eve, the Society adjourns to this day fortnight.

31 December, 1702.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps, Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, the Secretary, Mr. Barclay a Corr., Mr. Wyndham.

Agreed that S^{r} Jn^{o} Philipps do take the Chair (Mr. A. D. Booth being absent), which S^{r} John did accordingly.

1. Order'd that Mr. Stubbs be putt in mind of Conferring with Dr. Altham about Preaching to y^{e} Poor Vagrants in the Workhouse at Bishop'sgate.

2. Ord^{d} that the L^{d} Bp. of Worcester be putt in mind of his Inspecting the Books and Papers of this Society, in ord^{r} to the furnishing the Merchants Ships wth such as shall be thought prop^{r}.

3. Ord^{d} that Mr. Brewster be again Discourst wth ab^{t} the Recovery of Mr. Stephens's Benefaction.

4. Agr^{d} that the Vacancies in the Correspond^{ce} be taken into Consideration at next meeting.

5. Ord^{d} that Mr. Stubbs be putt in mind of acquainting the L^{d} Bp. of London with the Quaker's Intention ab^{t} setting up a School in Clarkenwell P'ish.

6. Agr^{d} that the L^{d} Guilford be Chairman for the month Ensuing.

7. The Treas^{r} moving from the L^{d} Bp. of Bath & Wells, that His L^{dp} does desire to dispose of £6 per ann. part of his Annual Subscription to this Society in his own Diocess, agr^{d} that his L^{dp} may have leave to Dispose of £6 per ann. in his Diocess, by Dispersing of good Books, according to his desires.

8. Agreed that a little Book entitled a Few Cautions and Directions in order to the more Decent Performance of the Publick Worship of

God, as appointed by the Church of Engl[d] be added to the Packett of Books & Papers of this Society.

9. The Secretary produced a Draught of a short Circular Letter to the Correspondents, w[ch] was read, & with an Amendment Approv'd.

10. Ord[d] that the Secy. do write to Dr. Woodward & the other Members of the Com[tee] for the furnishing the Merchants' Ships with Good Books & Papers, that they do meet at Child's Coffee House on Tuesday sennight at 2 o'Clock.

11. A Letter was read from Mr. Cocks of Gloucester.

7 January, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. A. D. Booth, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Masson a Correspond[t], Dr. Slare, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Bradley a Correspond[t], Mr. Serj[t] Hook, S[r] Jn[o] Philipps, Col. Colchester.

Agreed that Mr. A. D. Booth do take the Chair (The Lord Guilford being absent), w[ch] Mr. A. D. did accordingly.

1. Ord[d] that the Rev[d] Mr. Bradley be a Correspond[t] Member for York.

2. The Minute ab[t] Mr. Bugg being taken into Consideration, & Mr. Bugg's Case being again read, he was called in, & Discours'd & afterwards withdrew, & a Debate arising ab[t] Paym[t] of the money for w[ch] this Society engaged to give him Credit with their Stationer, agreed that this Society will Indemnify the Treas[r], who is to promise Paym[t] of £16. 10s. that remains due, if the Stationer will stay till 3 weeks after Easter for it.

3. Ord[d] that the Rev[d] Mr. Bowden be (upon the Motion of Mr. Lloyd) a Correspondent Member for Launceston in Cornwall.

4. Ord[d] that the Rev[d] Mr. Meredith be (upon the Motion of Mr. Lloyd) a Correspondent for the City of Worcester.

5. The Vacancies in the Correspondence being taken into Consideration, & a farther Progress being made therein; Ord[d] that the Consideration of this matter be adjourn'd to the next Meeting.

6. A Letter was read from Mr. Le Mesurier of Guernsey, & also another from Coll. Collier of Jersey, owning the Receipt of the Society's Books & Papers given to the English Garrisons in those Islands.

7. The Translation of Part of a Letter from Mr. Ostervald to Mr. Masson was read, & a Debate arising about the forreign Corr[ce] w[ch] was carried on by this Society; Ord[d] that the Secry. do draw up a Letter to M[rs] Tronchin & Turretin of Geneva, to invite them to Correspond w[th] this Society, and bring it to the next meeting.

8. It being observed in reading Mr. Ostervald's Letter that he has printed a Catechism & Dedicated it to this Society, Resolv'd that it is the opinion of this Society that the said Dedication might be more properly addressed to the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

Ordered that the Secy. do draw up a Letter to Mr. Osterwald thereupon, and that he do bring it to the next meeting.

Ordered that it be an instruction to the Secretary that he desire Liberty for the Society (in case his Letter comes too late to Mr. Osterwald) to alter the title of the said Dedication without medling with the Catechism itself.

14 January, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Sturmy a Corr., S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Barclay a Corr., Mr. Bradley a Corresp^t^, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Wyndham.

Agreed that S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps take the Chair (the L^d^ Guilford being absent), w^ch^ S^r^ Jn^o^ did accordingly.

1. S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor reported that £70 of Mr. Stephens's Benefaction will be p^d^ as soon as the Trustees (of whom S^r^ Edm^d^ is one) will give a Discharge for the whole £80.

2. The Secretary reported that Tuesday last at 2 o'Clock was found a time Inconvenient for Divers Members of the Com^tee^ for furnishing the Merchant's Ships, &c., and that they do desire to meet on Monday morning next. Ord^d^ that the s^d^ Com^tee^ do accordingly meet at Child's Coffee House on Monday next by nine o'Clock.

3. Ord^d^ that S^r^ Nich^s^ Pelham be (upon the Motion of S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps) a Lay Corr^t^ for Lewis in Sussex.

4. The Treasurer reported that he had accepted 2 Bills drawn by Mr. Bugg for y^e^ £16. 10s.

5. The Vacancies in the Corr^ce^ being taken into Consideration, & some Progress being again made therein, ord^d^ that the farther Consideration of this Matter be adjourn'd to the next meeting.

6. The Secry. producing a Draught of a Letter to M^rs^ Tronchin & Turretin of Geneva, & a Debate arising thereupon about the Forreign Corr^ce^ that is carried on by this Society, agreed that Mr. Nelson be desir'd to move at the next meeting of the Corporation for Propagat. the Gosp. in Foreign Parts that a Standing Com^tee^ may be appointed to take care to manage the Foreign Correspondence.

7. The Draught of the Letter to M^rs^ Tronchin & Turretin was read, approv'd, and order'd to be sent.

8. The Secry. also produced a Draught of a Letter to Mr. Osterwald of Neufchatel, w^ch^ was read, & (w^th^ some Amendm^ts^) approved & ord^d^ to be sent.

9. Mr. Ram approved, & Mr. Wyndham to desire his attendance.

21 January, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Hoefenhagen a Corr., S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Barclay a Correspond^t^, Mr. Shute, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Dr. Bray, Dr Slare.

Dr. Bray in the Chair, being desir'd by The L^d^ Guilford, who was Indisposed.

1. The Secry. produced from the Com^tee^ for furnishing the Merchant's Ships, &c., a Draught of a Circular Letter to y^e^ Commanders of such Ships, and a List of such Books & Papers as were thought necessary to be putt into the Packett Design'd to be given them by this Society ; and the said Letter being read, it was (w^th^ some amendments) approved, and Two Thousand of them Ord^d^ to be printed.

2. Ord^d^ that 200 Seamens Monitors. 200 Pastorall Letters, 200 Cautions ag^t^ Swearing, 200 ag^t^ Drunkeness, 200 Cautions ag^t^ Uncleaness, 200 of Mr. Stubbs's Sermons, 200 Exhortations to the Observation of the Lord's Day, & 200 Vindications of Informers, be made into as many Packetts, & enclosed in the s^d^ Letters, to be sent to the Correspond^ts^ at the Sea Ports, & by them distributed amongst the Commanders of Merchant's Ships, to each Ship one.

3. Order'd That the Secretary do write to Mr. Hunt of Gosport, &c., and desire them to Distribute the Packetts when sent.

4. A Paper drawn up by Mr. Barclay, concerning some Prayers & Practicall Discourses to be Composed for the use of Seafaring Persons, was read.

5. Mr. Stubbs reported that all that is desir'd in this Paper, is already done by Mr. Dorrington himself.

6. A Letter was read from S^r^ R^d^ Bulkeley owning the Rec^t^ of the Society's Books & Papers sent to the English Army in Irel^d^ the last Summer, and promising to take Care of the Distribution of them.

7. Ord^d^ that the Secretary do return him the Thanks of this Society.

8. The Secry. producing from Mr. Hodges the Ord^rs^ of a Society of the Clergy of the English, Dutch, & French Churches at New York, they were read. Ord^d^ that Mr. Hodges be desir'd to return Mr. Neau the Thanks of y^e^ Society for the same.

28 January, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Barclay a Corr., Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Sturmy a Corr^t^, S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps, Mr. Hodges, The Secretary, Dr. Bray, Mr. Eachard, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Windham, Mr. Ram.

S^r^ John Philipps in the Chair, being desir'd by the L^d^ Guilford, who was indisposed.

1. Ord^d^ that the Rev^d^ Mr. Lawrence Eachard be (upon the motion

of S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps) a Corresponding Member for Lowth in Lincolnshire, as also the Rev^d^ Mr. Worth for Oxford.

2. Mr. Lloyd Inform'd that he was desir'd by Mr. John Worth of Penryn to subscribe £5 per ann. in his name, w^ch^ he did accordingly.

3. Ord^d^ that the s^d^ Mr. Worth be a Correspondent for Penryn aforesaid.

4. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do return the Thanks of this Society to Mr. Worth for his s^d^ Benefaction.

5. Ord^d^ that the Report about Mr. Stephens's Benefaction be adjourned to the next Meeting.

6. Ord^d^ that Mr. Nelson be consulted ab^t^ his applying to the Corporation[1] touching their carrying on the Forreign Correspondence.

7. Part of a Letter from Mr. Cleaveland of Dudly to Mr. Lloyd was read, acknowledging y^e^ receit of some Books from Mr. Shute, and desiring some others. Ord^d^ that the Treas^r^ do send Mr. Cleaveland a Parcell of Books & Papers not exceeding the value of 20 shillings.

8. Agreed that Mr. Lloyd be Chairman for the Month Ensuing.

9. Mr. Stubbs presented the Paper concerning the X^tian^ Education of Poor Seamen's Children w^ch^ the Society desired him to draw up, w^ch^ was read & agreed, that in order to the Christian Education of the Poor Seamen's Children in Generall, a Charity School be Erected in Lime House for the Education of such Poor Children in the Hamletts of Poplar & Blackwall, Lime House & Ratcliff.

10. Agr^d^ that Mr. Stubbs be desir'd to confer with Dr. Woodward, Mr. Russell, & Mr. Skate about y^e^ most Prop^r^ Methods for getting up such a School.

11. Ord^d^ that the Rev^d^ Mr. Russell be (upon the Motion of Mr. Shute) a Correspondent for Wapping.

12. The Agents for Schools presented a Draught of a Table, shewing the Time & Place of Morning and Evening Prayers, of the Administration of the Holy Sacram^t^, and of Lecture Sermons in the sev^ll^ Churches within the Bills of Mortality, as also of Charity Schools, for teaching and clothing poor Children of both Sexes.

13. Ord^d^ that it be refer'd to Mr. Shute, and he to take some care ab^t^ the correcting it.

14. A Letter was read from Mr. Philip Varlo of Portsmouth, promising to Disperse the Society's Packetts amongst the Commanders of Merchant's Ships, w^ch^ Letter was written in answer to that sent to Mr. Hunt of Gosport.

15. Ord^d^ that Mr. Varlo be a Correspondent Memb^r^ for Portsm^th^.

16. Ord^d^ that Mr. Bennet & Mr. Harrison be (upon the motion of Mr. Wyndham) Correspond^ts^ for Shrewsbury & Monmouth.

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[1] S.P.G.

4 Febr., 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Eachard, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Worth a Corr., S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor, Mr. Brewster, the Secry., Mr. Ram, Mr. More, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Bromfield, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Wyndham.

Mr. Lloyd in the Chair.

1. Ord^d^ that Mr. Thoroughgood More, of Magdalen College, be a Lay Corr^t^ for Cambridge, being recommended by S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor.

2. The Treasurer Reported that 2,000 Copies of y^e^ Society's Letter to the Commander of Merchants' Ships are now printed off, & that y^e^ 200 Packetts of them are now made up.

3. Ord^d^ that 50 Packetts be sent to Portsmouth, 50 to Bristol, 20 to Exeter, 30 to Plymouth, & that the Secry. do write to the Correspond^ts^ of the s^d^ Places to see them Dispers'd accordingly.

4. Ord^d^ that Mr. Banks be (upon the motion of Mr. Bradley) a Correspond^t^ for Kingston upon Hull.

5. Ord^d^ that 20 of the s^d^ Packetts be sent to King's Lynn in Norfolk.

6. Mr. Jervois was approv'd, & S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps or Mr. Ram to desire his attendance.

7. Ord^d^ that 10 of the s^d^ Packetts (w^th^ the ordinary Packett) be sent to Mr. Worth of Penryn, to be distributed in the Port of Falmouth.

8. S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor Reported that he had Sign'd and Seal'd the General Release for Mr. Stephens's Benefaction (upon the Rec^t^ of £70), & that the s^d^ Release would soon be sign'd also & seal'd by the other Trustees, and that Thursday next is the day appointed for the Payment of the s^d^ £70 into the hands of Dr. Bray for the use of the Society.

9. Ord^d^ that a Com^tee^ be appointed to enquire into the Defficiency of the Pastorall Letter, in order to the having it Reimburs'd, and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers next Thursday at 3 o'clock in the afternoone.

10. Ord^d^ that Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turner, Mr. Serj^t^ Hooke, Dr. Bray, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, or any 3 of them be that Com^tee^.

11. A Letter read from Mr. Russell to Mr. Shute, accepting y^e^ Corr^ce^.

12. A Letter read from Mr. Shore of Hamsey, near Lewes in Sussex, accepting the Correspondence.

13. Mr. Stubbs reported that he had seen Dr. Woodward and discours'd with him ab^t^ getting up a Charity Schoole for the Christian Education of Poor Seamen's Children, ; and that the Doctor has promisd to take this affair into his more particular consideration, & present his farther thoughts ab^t^ this matter to the Society w^th^ all convenient speed.

14. A Printed Proposall for Erecting some Libraries in the High Lands of Scotland was read.

15. Mr. More acquainted y^e^ Society that about 30 or 40 Clergymen about Spilsby in Lincolnshire, have subscribed for 3 years tow^ds^ the Education of Two Hundred Poor Children in 14 or 15 of the Towns adjacent.

16. Ord^d^ that the Rev^d^ Mr. Rob^t^ Harding be (upon the Motion of Mr. More) a Correspond^t^ for Spilsby in Lincolnshire.

17. The Secy. reported that the Lord Bishop of Worcester was of opinion that the Society's Letters to M^rs^ Ostervald, Tronchin, & Turretin should be written to them in French, as well as in English ; and that Mr. Masson having translated them, they would be fairly written and sent to-morrow.

18. Ord^d^ that the Rev^d^ Mr. Calamy be (upon the Motion of Mr. More) a Correspond^t^ for Norrell in Bedfordshire.[1]

11 February, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Sturmy & Mr. More, Correspond^ts^, S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps, Mr. Windham, Mr. Lloyd, the Secry., Mr. Stubbs, S^r^ Edm^d^ Turnor, Mr. Ram, Mr. Lorrain a Corr, the L^d^ Bp. of Chichester, Mr. Bromfield, S^r^ Nich^s^ Pelham a Corr., Coll. Colchester.

Mr. Lloyd in the Chair.

1. Mr. Shute Reported that that he had restor'd the Draught of the Table for Morning & Evening Prayers, &c., to the Agents, who will themselves take all possible Care that it be Correctly done.

2. Ord^d^ that the Com^tee^ for Enquiring into the Deficiency of the Pastorall Letter do meet here this day sennight precisely by 4 of the Clock, & that the Secry. do give advice of it to those members that are absent.

3. Ord^d^ that Mr. Stubbs be desired to putt Dr. Woodward in mind of communicating his farther thoughts to this Society about Erecting a Charity Schoole in Limehouse for Poor Seamen's Children.

4. Ord^d^ that Major Yates be a Corresponding Member for Bristol.

5. A Letter was read from Mr. Dorrington of Wittersham to the Rev^d^. Mr. Hodges, lately Deceased.

6. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do write Mr. Dorrington an Answer.

7. A Debate arising from a Passage in the s^d^ Letter about a Method of Dispersing the Society's Books & Papers in the Country, ord^d^ that the Secry. do write to the Correspond^ts^ & know from them w^ch^ of the Books and Papers sent them in the Society's Packetts are most wanted, & likely to do good in their neighbourhood.

8. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do bring a Copy of the s^d^ Circular Letter to

[1] Added in another copy of Minutes "Begglesworth bay."

the next Meeting, together with a new Paragraph to this Purport to be Inserted in them.

9. A Letter was read from Mr. Lewis of Akryse.

10. Mr. More desiring some of the Acc^ts^ of the Society, ord^d^ that Mr. Treasurer do furnish him therew^th^.

11. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do bring a List of the Corr^ts^ to the next Meeting, & lay it on the Table.

12. Ord^d^ that Mr. Hallows be a Corr. Memb^r^ for Hertford.

13. The Vacancies in the Corr^ce^ being again taken into Consideration and a farther Progress being made therein, Ord^d^ that it be adjourned to the next Meeting.

14. Ord^d^ that the Secry. do bring a specimen of a Compleat List of Correspondents to the next Meeting.

18 February, 1702-3.

Present: Dr. Bray, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Bradley & Mr. Russell Correspondents, Mr. Bromfield, the Secry., Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, Coll. Colchester.

S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps in the Chair, being deputed by Mr. Lloyd.

1. Resolv'd that it be a Standing Order of this Society that no Person be propos'd as a Corr. Member of this Society before the Society be Certified of his Readiness to Accept y^e^ same.

2. The Agents for Schools being called in, they desired some Accounts of Schools. Ord^d^ that the Treas^r^ do furnish them accordingly.

3. Mr. Skate reported that at Aldgate, within the freedom part, there is £60 per ann. subscribed for teaching 20 Boys & Girls, & that the School is to be open'd at Easter; also that in the Parish of St. Peter's Poor there is a School to be open'd at Easter for 50 Boys, Fifty Pounds being Subscrib'd & Collected; also that at Brentford there was a School for 30 Boys open'd at Christmas last.

4. The Agents desiring the Advice of this Society how a man may leave a Legacy to Charity Schools, agreed that Mr. Serj^t^ Hook be desir'd to Draw up a form or Clause to this Purpose.

5. The Agents also Reported that the A. Bp. of Canterbury has lately given 10 Guineas & 100 Small Books to the Grey Coat Hospitall at Westm^r^.

6. A Debate arising about the Place wherein the Charity School for poor Seamen's Children should be Erected, agreed that Mr. Russell be desir'd to lay his thoughts about this matter in writing before this Society on this Day fortnight.

7. The Secry. produced a Copy of the 2d Circular Letter, together with a Paragraph to be added thereunto, w^ch^ was approved & Ord^d^ to be Inserted into the Future Copies of that Letter.

8. The Secry. produced a Specimen of a Compleat List of Corr^ts^, the Consideration of w^ch^ was adjourn'd to y^e^ next meeting.

9. Two Letters were read, one from Mr. Grave of Lewes, ye other from Mr. Harrison, both accepting the Correspondce.

10 A Lr read from Mr. Varlo of Portsmth acknowledging the Rect of the Society's Packetts & accepting ye Corrce.

A Lr read from Mr. Nelson Concerning the Minute of 14 Janry.

A Lr read from Mr. Leith of Bedford.

25 February, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Bray, Mr. Masson & Mr. Worth Corrts, Sr Jno Philipps, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Ram, Mr. Bromfield, Sr Edmd Turnor, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Stubbs.

Mr. Lloyd in the Chair.

1. Mr. Wyndham reported that Major Yates of Bristoll, does accept the Correspondence.

2. Agreed that the Secry. do wait on him with a Copy of the Circular Letter & the Packett.

3. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be adjourn'd to next Meeting.

4. Agreed that the Specimen of a Compleat List of Corrts do lye upon the Table.

5. Sr Jno Guise Approved, & Mr. Wyndham to desire his attendance.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of the Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Worcester, for the Honble Mention made in his late Excellent Sermon, preached before the Corporation for Propagating the Gospell in Forreign Parts: that it be signified to his Lordship that this Society does heartily Concur wth ye sd Corporation in their desires that the said Sermon may be printed.

7. Agreed that Sr Jno Philips, Mr. Ram, & Mr. Wyndham be desir'd to deliver this Message to his Lordship.

8. Resolved that the Accounts of this Society be audited every half year, within a month after Lady day & Michaelmas.

9. Ordd that this be enter'd amongst the Standing Orders of this Society.

10. Agrd that 100 Copies of the Standing Ordrs of this Society be printed, and deliver'd to those only as shall be Residing Members.

11. A Letter was read from Mr. Osterwald to Mr. Masson, who Presenting one of Mr. Osterwald's Catechisms,[1] wch was Dedicated to this Society, the Epistle Dedicatory was read, and a Debate arising thereupon; Ordd that Mr. Masson and the Secry. do wait on Dr. Manningham, & in the name of the Society desire him to read ovr the sd Catechism, and to Report his Opinion thereon at next Meeting;

[1] "Catechisme, ou instruction dans la religion Chrétienne." Amsterdam, 1704.

particularly to the Points of Faith, Original Sin, Justification, the Supper of the Lord, & Good Works.

12. A L^r was read from Mr. Banks of Hull, accepting y^e Corr^ce

13. A Letter was read from Mr. Shore of Hamsey.

14. A Letter was read from Mr. Varlo of Portsmouth.

15. A Letter was read from Mr. Fenwick of Hallaton.

16. A Letter was read from Mr. Worth of Penryn owning the Receipt of the Packetts design'd for the Comanders of Merchants' Ships in the Haven of Falmouth.

17. A Letter was read from Dr. Tyler, Dean of Hereford.

18. Agreed that Mr. Lloyd do communicate it to the L^d Bp. of Hereford, & bring it back to the next meeting.

19. A Letter read from Mr. Grave of Lewes.

20. Agreed that Mr. Wyndham be Chairman for the Month Ensuing.

4 March, 1702-3.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Shute, S^r Edm^d Turnor, S^r Jn^o Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Kirkwood, Mr. Bradley & Mr. Masson Correspondents, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Slare, Dr. Bray, Mr. Seaman.

Mr. Wyndham in the Chair.

1. Ord^d that the Rev^d Mr. Kirkwood be a Corresponding Member of this Society for the Kingdom of Scotland.

2. Mr. Serj^t Hook not being in Town ; Agreed that Mr. Brewster be desir'd to draw up a Clause or Form, for the Bequeathing a Legacy to Charity Schools.

3. A Letter was read from Mr. Hales to Mr. Chamberlayne dated 18 Jan. 1703. Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne do write him an Answer, & return him the Thanks of this Society for y^e same.

4. S^r Jn^o Philipps reported that he w^th Mr. Wyndham & Mr. Ram had waited on the L^d B^p of Worcester, who Express^d himself very affectionately concerning this Society, & gave them hopes of Printing his Sermons.

5. The Treasur^er produced a Printed Pap^r Proof of y^e Standing Ord^rs of this Society, w^ch was read, & severall amendm^ts being to them, Or^d that the Secry. do write over a fresh Copy of y^e S^d Ord^rs so Printed & Amended, & bring it to the next Meeting of this Society.

6. Dr. Manningham reported that he had Cursorily read ov^r Mr. Ostervald's Book, w^ch in the main, he thinks very well written.

7. Agreed that the Dr. be desir'd to read it over again, and lay his Opinion thereof in writing before the Society at next Meeting.

8. Mr. Lloyd Reported that he had shew'd Dr. Tyler's Letter to the L^d Bp. of Hereford, who readily promist to promote the Designs of this Society as far as he could.

9. Ord^d that the Secry. do signify this to the Dean of Hereford.

10. The Secry. acquainting the Society that he had rec^d sev^ll Letters ; Ord^d that they be read at next Meeting.

11 March, 1702-3.

Present: S^r^ Jn^o^ Philipps, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Bromhall a Corr^t^, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Bradley, a Correspondent.

Mr. Wyndham in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be resumed at next meeting.

2. The Treas^r^ laying before the Society a Printed Pap^r^ or Letter touching the Profanation of the Lord's Day by Divers of y^e^ French Refugees, ord^d^ that 500 of them be bought & Distributed amongst the s^d^ Refugees.

3. The Secry. produced a Fresh Copy of the Standing Orders of this Society, together w^th^ some farther Amendmen^ts^, w^ch^ (w^th^ some Corrections) were ord'd to be printed.

4. Dr. Manningham laid his opinion of Mr. Ostervald's Catechism before the Society in writing, w^ch^ being read, Resolv'd that a Letter of Thanks be written to Mr. Ostervald, & that this Catechism be forthw^th^ translated into English by the Secry.

5. Two Letters were read from Mr. Grave of Lewes, whereof that of y^e^ 2^d^ March was refer'd to Mr. Shute, and he to make his Report at next Meeting.

6. Letters were read from Mr. Lancaster of Torporly, Dr. Stanhope[1] of Deptford, Mr. Brockman of Beachborough, Mr. Bedford of Bristoll, Mr. Braddock of Canterbury, & Mr. Varlo of Portsmouth.

7. A Letter was read from Mr. Russell of Mr. Shute, concerning the Minute of the 18^th^ of February.

8. Letters were read from Mr. Meredith of Worcester, Mr. Bennett of Shrewsbury, & Mr. Whiston of Cambridge, all accepting the Correspondence.

9. A Letter was read from Mr. Fletcher of Spondon.

10. Agreed that Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Dawes of Shrewsbury, be Invited to Correspond w^th^ this Society.

11. Letters were read from Dr. Tod[2] of Penryth, Mr. Peploe[3] of Preston, Mr. Dobson of Uiddesden, Mr. Philipps of Carmarthen, Mr. Welshman of Lapworth, Mr. Mapletoft of Huntingdon, Mr. Scott of Northwood, Mr. Shergold of Newport, and Mr. Jolland of Denton.

12. A Letter from Dr. Littell, owning the Receipt of the Society's

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[1] George Stanhope, D.D., born 1660, died 1728; Vicar of Deptford 1703, Dean of Canterbury 1704. A voluminous writer. Edited Bp. Andrews's "Private Devotions" for S.P.C.K.

[2] Hugh Todd, D.D., born at Blencow, Cumberland, 1658; Vicar of Penrith 1702, died 1728. Author of a "Life of Phocion," &c.

[3] Samuel Peploe, D.D., made Bishop of Chester 1726.

Packetts presented to the Commanders of Merchants Ships at King's Lynn.

13. The Persons from whom some of the above-mention'd Letters come, desiring some of the Society's Books & Pa^rs, it was refer'd to Mr. Shute as that of Mr. Grave.

Thursday, 18 March, 1702-3.

Present: Mr. Shute, the Lord Guilford, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Ram.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair, being Deputed by Mr. Wyndham.

1. A Debate arising about Mr. Stephens's Benefaction, and about the Produce of the Pastoral Letter,

2. Agreed that this matter be refer'd to a Committee, and they to meet here this Day Sennight by three a'Clock precisely.

3. Agreed that Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Brewster, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, or any three of them be that Committee.

4. Order'd that Dr. Bray be desir'd to Attend the said Committee.

5. The Treasurer Reported that he had bought 500 of the French Papers, which he had order'd to be deliver'd to the French Ministers hereabouts; and that they are distributed already amongst the French Refugees,[1] who receiv'd them very Thankfully.

6. Order'd that 500 more of the same Papers be bought, and distributed amongst others of the said Refugees.

7. The Treasurer produc'd a Printed Proof of the Standing Orders and Resolutions of this Society, which were again Read, and with some other Amendments Approv'd.

8. Order'd that An Hundred Copies of the said Orders be wrought-off.

9. Agreed that Mr. Brewster be desir'd to bring the Clause as about bequeathing a Legacy to Charity-Schools, to the next Meeting.

10. The Agents for Schools being Called in,

11. M^r. Skate Reported that in Bishop-gate Parish, there is a Society that maintain and Educate 20 Boys, at their own Charges.

12. The Agents moving the Society for 200 Christian Schollars, and as many of the Pastoral Advices to those who are newly Confirm'd,

13. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish them therewith.

14. The Treasurer Reported that some of the Societies Papers were desir'd by Mr. Grave of Lewes, Mr. Jolland of Denton, Mr. Scott of Northwood, Mr. Shergold of Newport, and Mr. Philipps of Carmarthen,

[1] This shows that a considerable number of French refugees, after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, had already settled in London.

15. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish them according to his Discretion.

16. A Letter was Read from Mr. Cranston of Riegate desiring some books of the Society that are written against the Quakers, to putt into the Lending Library there.

17. Ordered that the Treasurer do send to Mr. Cranston the Snake in the Grass, and the Vindication of the same, Buggs Pilgrims Progress, and Vox Populi, and Keith's[1] Answer to Barclay, and his Broadsheet, the Answer to the Switch, Mr. Keith's Narratives.

18. Letters were Read from Mr. Grave of Lewes, and Mr. Horton of Chalderton.

19. Order'd that they be refer'd to the Treasurer.

20. A Letter was Read from Canon Gilbert of Plymouth, Promising to disperse the Societies Packets among the Commanders of Merchants Ships in that Harbour.

21. Letters were Read from Mr. Bynns of Cheadle, Mr. Fenwick of Hallaton, Mr. Harrison of Stanton, Mr. Dorrington of Wittresham, Mr. Aldersey of Spurstow, Mr. Varlo of Portsmouth, Mr. Acres[2] of Blewbury, and Mr. Bedford of Bristol.

Thursday, 25 March, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubbs, S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare.

S[r] John Philipps in the Chair at the Request of Mr. Nelson.

1. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be resum'd at next Meeting.

2. Mr. Stubs Reported that he had distributed the Papers and Books formerly given him among the Seamen in his District, and that many Sea Officers had acknowledged the great benefit which those under their command have receiv'd thereby.

3. Agreed that another Parcel of Books and Papers be deliver'd, to Mr. Stubs, to be distributed amongst other Seamen, the Parcel not exceeding the Value of 50 shillings.

4. Agreed that Mr. Nelson be Chairman for the month ensuing.

5. The Agents for Schools being call'd in, they mov'd the Society for a number of Cautions against Swearing, and Observations of the Lords Day, whereupon it was

6. Order'd that 250 of each be deliver'd to them.

7. Mr. Bromfield mov'd that the Poor Children in all the Charity-Schools might Walk in Procession once a year to some Church and

[1] George Keith was born in Aberdeenshire, educated at University of Aberdeen with Bishop of Burnet. He turned Quaker, and went to Pennsylvania, afterwards entered the Church of England, and died Rector of Edburton, Sussex, 1715.

[2] Joseph Acres, Vicar of Blewberry, Berks.

there hear a Sermon ; and it was recommended to the Agents to discourse the Trustees, &c., about this Matter.

8. Order'd that the Committee last mention'd, do meet this day Sennight by 3 a'clock.

9. A Letter was Read from Mr. Frank of Cranfield, touching the Library of Bedford and a Charity School at Cranfield.

10. Order'd that Dr. Slare be desir'd to show this Letter to Mr. Neal (therein mention'd), and to bring it with Mr. Neal's Answer to the next Meeting.

11. A Draught of a Settlement for the Library at Bedford, being enclos'd in Mr. Frank's Letter, and the Societies Advice being desired thereupon,

12. Agreed that it be refer'd to Mr. Brewster, Mr. Comyns, and Mr. Melmoth, and a Report from them to be made at next meeting.

13. An Extract out of a Private Letter to Mr. Masson from Mr. Ostervald of Neuchatel was Read.

14. A Letter from Messrs. Tronchin and Turrettin of Geneva to the Secretary was Read.

15. The Secretary showing divers other Letters,

16. Order'd that they be Read at next meeting.

Thursday, 1 April, 1703.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Ram, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare, Mr. Masson.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Mr. Brewster Produced a Clause for Bequeathing a Legacy to Charity-Schools ; he was Thanked for the same ; and it was Order'd to be deliver'd to the Agents.

2. Order'd that the Revd. Mr. Grabe (upon the Motion of Mr. Brewster) be a Correspondent for the King of Prussia's Dominions.[1]

3. Mr. Stubbs being suddenly to go to Oxford, and moving the Society for some of their Books and Papers to distribute there,

4. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish him, according as they shall see convenient.

5. Mr. Ram being to go for Ireland, he propos'd the Acquainting the Arch-bishops of Ardmagh and Dublin, &c., with the Designs of this Society ; whereupon 'twas

6. Agreed that the Treasurer do deliver to him, ten of the Printed Copies of the Standing Orders of this Society, and two of the Packets of Books and Papers, or what other Papers Mr. Ram shall desire.

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[1] John Ernest Grabe, D.D., born at Königsberg, Prussia, in 1666. Being dissatisfied with Lutheranism because of its want of bishops and apostolical succession, he came to England and took Orders in the Church of England. He became a Non-Juror, and died 1712. He was author of several learned works and editor of the Septuagint, of "Justin Martyr," of "Irenæus," &c.

7. The Society gave Mr. Ram their Thanks for his Zeal in Promoting their Designs.

8. Mr. Brewster Reported from the Committee that the Affair concerning Mr. Stephens's Benefaction, will be suddenly concluded.

9. Dr. Slare Reported that he had left Mr. Frank's Letter with Mr. Neal, who ha's promis'd to take it into his consideration.

10. The Translation of a Letter from Mr. Ostervald to the Secretary was Read.

11. Order'd that the Secretary do Draw up a Letter to Mr. Ostervald, and bring it to the next Meeting.

12. The Agents for Schools being called in,

13. Mr. Skate Acquainted the Society, that he did believe that a Letter from Mr. Bulstrode to Mr. Justice Hayley, would very much promote the Setting up a Charity-School at Brentford.

14. Order'd that Mr. Bulstrode be desired to write to the said Mr. Haley.

15. The Translation of a Letter was Read from Messrs. Tronchin and Turretin to the Society, accepting the Correspondence.

16. Order'd that Mr. Nelson be desir'd to lay this Letter and Mr. Ostervald's last Letter before the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

17. The Secretary shewing many Letters that remain to be Read, and it growing late,

18. Order'd that they be Read at next Meeting.

Thursday, 6 April, 1703.

Present: Mr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Dr. Manningham, S^{r} Edmund Turner, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^{r} John Philipps, Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Shute in the Chair, Mr. Nelson being absent.

1. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be resum'd at next Meeting.

2. Order'd that Mr. Brewster, Mr. Comyns, and Mr. Melmoth be put in mind of perusing the Draught of a Settlement for the Library at Bedford.

3. The Agents for Schools being called in,

4. They inform'd the Society that some of the Charity-School-Masters were molested . . . by other School-Masters, upon account of their not being licensed,

5. And the Societies Advice being desired about this matter,

6. They were of opinion, that the said Charity-School-masters might go on in their Teaching, and that if they should be Summon'd to take out Licenses, they might then take out such Licenses, or that Application might be made to the Lord Bishop of London to know his Lordship's Pleasure therein.

7. Dr. Manningham Reported that the Secretary had sent him the whole Translation of Mr. Ostervald's Catechism, and that having much business upon his hands, he could not compare the whole translation with the Original.

8. And Dr. Manningham producing many of the sheets, some were deliver'd to S^r^ John Philipps, others to Mr. Chamberlayne and S^r^ Edmund Turner, and the rest were order'd to be sent to Mr. Lloyd, and they were desir'd to compare the Translation with the Original, with all convenient speed.

9. Dr. Manningham Propos'd that A.B^p^ Tillotson's Sermons upon *Restitution*, might be compared with Monsieur Placette's Book upon that Subject, and that a new Treatise might be made from both (with the consent of Mr. Chiswell (the owner of A. B. Tillotson's copie) w^ch^ he undertake's to obtain.

10. Agreed that Dr. Manningham be desired to compare these two Author's together, and to lay an Abstract of Mons^r^ Placette's Book, before this Society.

11. The Secretary Produced a Draught of a Letter to Mr. Ostervald, which was with some Amendments Approv'd, and Order'd to be Translated into French and sent.

12. A Letter was Read from Mr. Banks of Hull,

13. The Secretary shewing many other Letters to be read,

14. Order'd that they be read at next Meeting.

15. Order'd that the Accounts be Audited at Next Meeting, by a Committee, after the Society is risen ; and a Report to be made this day fortnight.

Thursday, 15 April, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Deffray a Correspondent, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Ludolf a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Bradley a Correspondent, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare, Mr. Ram, Mr. Comyns.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Order'd that Dr. Slare be put in mind of the Letter by him deliver'd to Mr. Neal.

2. Mr. Ludolf being suddenly to go into Holland,

Order'd that the Secretary do write by him to Mons^r^ de Beringhen.

3. Dr. Bray having paid to the Treasurer the sum of £44. 2s. 6d. (forty-four pounds, two and sixpence) and accounted for the sum of £25. 17s. 6d. for the necessary Charges in Recovering the sum of £70, by him recd. from Mr. Ettrick on account of Mr. Stephens' Benefaction,

The Doctor also acquainting the Society, that in Order to receive this £70, he ha's given a note to Mr. Ettrick to procure his Proper Releases for the said money ; or to return the same :

Agreed that the Society doe's indemnify Dr. Bray upon account of his Note, till the Trustees Releases can be procured.

4. Order'd that the Treasurer do pay the Secretary ten Guinea's for translating Mr. Ostervald's Catechism.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. Bray for his great Care and Pains in procuring the Benefaction of Mr. Stephens.

6. Order'd that four pounds be distributed amongst Mr. Serj[t] Hookes servants.

7. Agreed that the Secretary do acquaint the Chairman with the names of such Correspondents as come to the Meetings of the Society, in order to their Civil Entertainment here.

8. Letters were Read from Mr. Bennett of Shrewsbury, Mr. More of Cambridge, Mr. Neal of Stamford, Mr. Braddock of Canterbury, Mr. Parker of Parkhall.

9. Letters were Read from Mr. Boughton of Launceston, and Mr. Hardwick of Eresby accepting the Correspondence, together with a Copie of the Form of Subscription for the Education of about 200 poor Children in Spilsby &c. in Lincolnshire.

10. Letters were Read from Mr. Thomas of Carmarthen, Mr. Vaughan of Derlliss, Mr. Shaw of Warrington, Mr. Edwards of Embleton, Mr. Foster of Deverel, Mr. Portman of Burport, Mr. Adamson[1] of Burton-Coggles, Mr. Colmar of Babcary, Mr. Juice of Birtsmorton, Mr. Brockman of Beachborough, Mr. John's of Stroud.

11. Several of these Relating to Books,

16. Order'd that they be Refer'd to the Treasurer, he to make a Report of them at next Meeting.

17. Agreed that the Secretary do draw up a Clause concerning the misapplication of Charities, and bring it to the next Meeting.

Thursday, 22 April, 1703.

Present: S[r] George Wheler, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, S[r] Edm. Turner, S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Stubs, the Lord Bishop of Chichester, Mr. Chamberlayne.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Mr. Nelson Reported that he had Deliver'd the 2 Letters from Messrs. Ostervald, Tronchin, and Turrettin, to the Corporation-Society, who ha's refer'd them to the Consideration of the Committee meeting at St. Pauls.

2. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be Resum'd at next Meeting.

3. Order'd that the Revd. Mr. Jo. Troughton be a Corresponding Member for Grantham in Lincolnshire.

4. Order'd that Mr. Comyns, Mr. Brewster and Mr. Melmoth be

[1] John Adamson, M.A., Prebendary of Lincoln, and Rector of Burton-Coggles.

put in mind of the Draught of the Settlement of the Library at Bedford.

5. The Minute about the Charity-School-masters being again taken into Consideration and Debated,

6. Agreed, that the L^d B^p of Chichester and S^r George Wheler be desired to represent this whole matter to the Lord B^p of London.

7. Mr. Skate being called in,

8. He Reported that they are now about a general Visitation of the Charity-Schools, and that they have found hitherto, all things relating to them in very exact order, saving that in one School some of the Trustees do cause their own Children to be taught with the Poor Children ; and that in some other Schools one Master will undertake to teach more than Fifty Children.

9. Resolved that this Society will endeavor to obviate these two Mischiefs by a proper Application to the Trustees.

10. Mr. Stubs Reported that he had recd 12 Pacquets of Books and Papers from the Treasurer, which he had distributed at Oxford amongst the Town and Country Ministers, who received them very thankfully, and have promised to send him an account of what good shall be done thereby.

11. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Stubs for his Care and Pains taken in this affair.

12. Mr. Stubs moving the Society for a parcell of books and Papers to be sent to Mr. Davenport Minister of Buckland in Berkshire, who is represented to him as a person very proper for the well-distribution of them :

13. Order'd that the Treasurer do send him a parcell, the value not exceeding 10 shillings.

14. The Treasurer Reported to the Society, that some of the Correspondents desire Books and Papers to be given them, and that some offer to pay for them : he also reported the names of the Books.

15. Order'd that the Treasurer do supply those that will pay for them : and that he do send Mr. Foster of Deverel, Mr. Thomas of Carmarthen, Mr. Vaughan of Derlliss, Mr. Portman of Worcester, Mr. Edwards of Embleton, and Mr. Adamson of Burton-Coggles a parcel of Books and Papers according to his Discretion ; no parcell exceeding 15 shillings in value.

16. S^r John Philipps Reported that he with Mr. Comyns, Mr. Ram, &c. had Audited the Treasurers Accounts, which they had found faithfully and exactly kept.

17. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Shute for his Services to it.

18. The Secretary producing a Clause concerning the misapplication of Charities, it was Amended in some places, and Order'd to be farther Consider'd at next Meeting.

19. Letters were Read from Mr. Turner of Stamford, Mr. Dawes of Shrewsbury, and Mr. Tottie of Eccleshall accepting the Correspondence.

20. A Letter was read from Mr. Harrison of Stanton (refer'd to Mr. Shute).

21. A Letter was read from Mr. Lewis of Achryse, and Order'd to be communicated to the Society of Reformation of Manners by S^r J. Philipps.

Thursday, 29 April, 1703.

At Mr. Serj^t Hook's House.

Present: Mr. Nelson, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, the Secretary, Dr. Slare, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bradley a Correspondent, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Deffray a Correspondent.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Manner of Printing the Translation of Mr. Ostervald's Catechism be taken into Consideration and Settled at the next Meeting.

2. Agreed that Mr. Shute be desir'd to lay his thoughts upon this matter in writing before this Society at next Meeting.

3. Agreed that Dr. Slare be Chairman for the Ensuing Month.

4. The Clause about the Misapplications of particular Charities was again Read, and being Approv'd, Order'd that it be transmitted to such Corresponding Members as shall be appointed by the Society, Provided that such Gentlemen of the long-Robe as are of this Society do declare this Procedure to be Legal.

5. Order'd that the Secretary do bring a List of the Correspondents to the next Meeting, in order to this purpose.

Thursday, 6 May, 1703.

At Mr. Serj^t Hooke's House.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Nelson, the Secretary, Mr. Bradney and Mr. Disney Correspondents, Mr. Brewster, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Dr. Bray, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Hodges.

S^r John Philipps in the Chair in the Absence of Dr. Slare.

1. Agreed that Mr. Disney[1] be a Corresponding Member for Lincoln, on the Recommendation of Mr. More, by Letter.

2. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be resum'd at next Meeting.

3. Order'd that Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Comyns and Mr. Brewster be put in mind of the Draught of Settlement of the Library at Bedford.

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[1] John Disney, born at Lincoln 1677; an active magistrate for twenty years, then took Orders, and became Vicar of Croft. Died 1730. Author of several Essays.

4. Order'd that the Secretary do wait on Dr. Manningham, and in the Name of this Society desire the Use of his Church for a Sermon to be Preach'd therein to the Poor Children taught in all the Charity-Schools, annually upon St. John Baptist's day: and that they do desire the Dr. to preach the first Sermon.

5. Mr. Serj[t] Hook being removing from his House,

6. And another Place of Meeting being to be pitch'd upon,

7. Mr. Stubs offer'd a Room at Sion-College[1] to Meet in, which the Society did accept, till a more convenient place be found.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Serj Hook for his kindness in permitting the Meetings of the Society in his house to this day

9. Mr. Shute presented to the Society a Proposal for Printing the Translation of Mr. Ostervald's Catechism, wherein he proposing to be at the charge of Printing 2,000 copies of it, of reimbursing to the Society the Charge of Translating it, and of paying £7 to Mr. Hawes for countenancing it and promoting it's sale, Provided that the farther Profits of this Copie be appropriated to a Charity-School which he is setting up at Killmersdon in Somerset-shire.

10. To this Proposal the Society Agreed.

11. Agreed that Mr. Nelson and Dr. Stanhop be desired to revise the whole Copie of this Book before it be committed to the Press.

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[1] In a MS. book of about the year 1760, the following list appears under the heading "Places at which the Society used to meet" :—

1698. At y[e] House of John Hook Esq. Serj[t] at Law.
The Comittee at Child's Coffee House. Chamber of Sam. Brewster Esq. Lincolns Inn &c.
1703. M[r] Phil. Stubbs Room in Sion College.
St. Dunstan's Quest House.
M[r] Ibbot's House.
1704. Nov. 16. The House of Rev. Mr. Hen. Shute, their Treasurer, in Bartlets Buildings.
1705. Y[e] Standing Committee at y[e] Chambers of W[m] Melmoth Esq., at Lincolns Inn.
At St. Dunstan's Coffee House.
1716. Jun 21. St Dunstan's Quest House.
Nov. 29. St Paul's Chapter House.
1728. April 4. Y[e] First Meeting at the Societys House in Bartlet's Buildings.
1758. Oct 3. The First Meeting in y[e] Societys House, Hatton Garden N° 9.

Added in another hand :—

1777. Oct. 7. Bartlett's Buildings.

Recent Houses of Meeting :—

1827. 67 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.
1879. Nov. Society's House, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

12. And thereupon the Translation and the Original (except the sheet O) was deliver'd to Mr. Nelson.

13. A Letter was Read from Mr. More of Cambridge.

14. A Letter was Read from Mr. Troughton of Grantham accepting the Correspondence.

15. A Letter was Read from Mr. Cranston acknowledging the Receipt of the Societies present to the Lending-Library at Riegate.

16. S[r] Humfrey Mackworth moving the Society for some of the Societies books and Papers to be dispers'd among the Workmen and Laborers in the Mines in Wales

17. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish him with a parcell not exceeding 40s. in value.

18. A Letter was Read from Mr. Killingworth of Lilburne, wherein was enclosed a little Tract concerning Charity-Schools : which last was refer'd to the perusal of Mr. Bradley and Mr. Shute, and they to make a Report at next Meeting.

Thursday, 13 May, 1703.

At Sion Colledge.

Present: S[r] John Philipps, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Dr. Slare (Mr. Disney a Corresponding Member), Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, S[r] Edm. Turnor, S[r] Humfry Mackworth, Mr. Nelson.

Dr. Slare in the Chair.

1. It having been Proposed to the Society that a certain Person is ab[t] publishing an Acc[t] of English Protestant Charities, and that he has Requested the Society to Afford him their Assistance by the Means of their Correspondence throughout England :

2. Order'd that this Matter be considered of at the next Meeting, and that S[r] H. Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Serj[t] Hook, Mr. Comyns, and other Members that are Gentlemen of the Long Robe be desired to Attend at the same time.

3. Mr. Stubs reports that he has distributed the Society's Papers which were Recommended to him, among the souldiers in Tilbury Fort, Sheerness, and Upnor Castle.

4. Order'd that it be refer'd to Mr. Shute and Mr. Hodges to prepare a certain number of Packets to be given to the masters of those outward-bound Merchants ships that lie ready to sail from the several Ports in England, according to their Discretion.

5. Agreed that Mr. Henry Newman be a Corresponding Member for New-found-land.

6. Agreed that Four thousand copies on Broad Sheets of a certain Paper lately printed at Oxford and entituled *The Obligations Christians are under to Avoid Vice and Immorality, &c.*, be reprinted at the Charge of the Society.

7. Order'd that the Treasurer do take care of the same.

8. Order'd that the Treasurer do deliver to S^r^ John Philips a certain number of the Societies Books and Papers not exceeding Ten shillings, as also the same to S^r^ Edmund Turnor.

9. Order'd that there be always a competent number of all the Societys Books and Papers Lying upon the Table for the use of the Members of this Society.

10. Mr. Shute and Mr. Bradley report that they have perused the Paper of Mr. Killingworth which was refer'd to them, and that, considering the great number of Pieces of the like nature, it is their opinion that the said Paper need not be printed.

11. A letter from Mr. Wm. Turner of Stamford accepting the Correspondence.

12. A letter read from Mr. Frank of the 8 May 1703.

13. A letter from Mr. Scot of the Ile of Wight to Mr. Shute read.

14. Order'd that 2 Packets be deliver'd to Mr. Stubs in order to be sent to Mr. Lowton Minister of Chatham, and Mr. Gilman minister of St. Nicholas in Rochester.

15. A letter from Mr. John Adamson of Burton-Coggles to Mr. Shute owning the receit of the last Parcell of Books given to him by the Society, was read.

Thursday, 20 May, 1703.

At Sion Colledge.

Present: Dr. Littell, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philipps, S^r^ Edmund Turner, the Secretary, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Serj^t^ Hook, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bradley a Correspondent.

Dr. Manningham in the Chair, Dr. Slare being absent.

1. Agreed that the Vacancies in the Correspondence be resum'd at next Meeting.

2. Order'd that Mr. Comyns, Mr. Melmoth and Mr. Brewster be put in mind of the Draught of Settlement of the Library at Bedford.

3. Dr. Manningham told the Society that he is very willing to lend his Church for a Sermon to be preach'd to the poor Children taught in the Charity-Schools, but that he shall be out of Town at Midsomer. And Midsomer day being, upon farther consideration, found to be inconvenient for this purpose,

4. Resolv'd that this Society will again take this Matter into consideration at the first meeting in November next.

5. The Treasurer Moving the Society for a new Impression of the Account of Charity-Schools,

6. Order'd that 500 of them be Printed, the necessary Alterations and Additions being first made.

7. Order'd that the Treasurer do deliver a parcell of the Societies Books and Papers to Dr. Littell, such as the Dr. shall desire; the value not exceeding 20 shill^s^.

8. Agreed that Mr. Stubs be desired to speak to Mr. Zinzano[1] about dispersing the Societies Packets amongst the Commanders of Merchants Ships at Gravesend.

9. Mr. Treasurer Reported that since the last Meeting, he had deliver'd 6 of the Societies ordinary Packets to Dr. Slare, upon his desire.

Thursday, 27 May, 1703.

Present: Mr. Stubs, S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Bray, Mr. Brewster, the Secretary, S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Shute, Dr. Slare, Mr. Bradley a Correspondent, Mr. Trymmers, Mr. Newton, a Correspondent.

Dr. Slare in the Chair.

1. Order'd that the Secretary do draw up a Letter to be sent to the Correspondents, about the Protestant Charities given in their neighbourhood, and that he bring it to the next Meeting.

2. A Letter from Mr. Davenport of Buckland to Mr. Stubs was read.

3. Dr. Bray acquainting the Society that he ha's lately been at Ware in Hertfordshire, where he supposing that the Erection of a Charity-School would be a great Benefit to the poor Inhabitants there,

4. Order'd that the Agents be consulted about this Matter at next Meeting.

5. Order'd that 300 of the Tables of Prayers, &c., be bought of the Agents, and laid before the Society at next Meeting.

6. Mr. Stubs moving the Society for one of the Packets to be presented to Mr. Colson of Bristol,

7. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish him therewith: and with one Printed Copie of the Standing Orders of the Society.

8. Agreed that Mr. Bulstrode be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

9. Mr. Treasurer acquainting the Society that there is no Tract about the Sacrament of the Lords Supper in the Societies Packet:

10. Agreed that Mr. Treasurer be desired to lay some of the small Tracts printed upon this Subject, before the Society at next Meeting.

Thursday, 3 June, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubs, Mr. A. D. Boothe, Mr. Bradley and Mr. Sturmy Correspondents, Mr. Bulstrode, S[r] J. Philipps, Mr. Hodges, Mr. A. D. Kennett, Mr. More and Mr Newman Correspondents, Mr. Disney a Correspondent, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair.

1. Order'd that the Secretary do make a Table of all the Counties,

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[1] Mr. Zinzano, author of "The Servant's Calling; with some Advice to the Apprentice," &c., pp. 88, 12mo. London: 1725. He was, doubtless, an Italian, and seems to have been a kind of missioner to seamen.

Cities, and Market Towns, &c., in England and Wales, and insert therein the List of the Corresponding Members of this Society.

2. Agreed that Mr. Comyns, Mr. Melmoth, and Mr. Brewster be desir'd to expedite the Draught of Settlement for the Library at Bedford.

3. The Secretary produced some Additions to the List of Schools, which he was Order'd to Communicate to the Agents for Schools, toward's perfecting the List they design to publish in the new Edition of their Account of Schools.

4. The Treasurer producing some of the Papers entitled *The Obligations Christians are under, to Shun Vice and Immorality*

5. Order'd that they be for the future inserted into the Societies Ordinary Packets.

6. Agreed that 250 of these Papers and 100 Packets for the Commanders of Merchants Ships be deliver'd to Mr. Newman, to be dispersed in the English Settlements in Newfoundland.

7. Mr. A. D. Booth moving the Society for some of the Societies Books and Papers to be dispers'd amongst the Seamen in Shields and Sunderland,

8. Agreed that 100 Packetts for the Commanders of Ships, and 200 of the above-mention'd Papers be deliver'd to Mr. A. D. Booth for this purpose.

9. Mr. Stubs acquainting the Society that 15 Ships are now setting out for Turkey,[1] and Moving the Society for some of the Packets for them,

10. Order'd that 15 Packets for Commanders of Ships be deliver'd to him, for this purpose.

11. A Little Treatise entitled *An Address to the Officers and Seamen in Her Majesties Royal Navy*, and compos'd by Dr. Woodward, was Read, and order'd to be Printed to the number of 5,000 Copies, on half sheets.

12. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. Woodward for this his excellent Composure.

13. Mr. More acquainting the Society that a Gentleman of his Acquaintance, is willing to bequeath £100 to this Society, but that he desire's a Form of Words fit for this purpose,

14. Agreed that Mr. Chairman be desir'd to draw up a Clause, against the next Meeting.

15. Mr. Shute reading part of a Letter written to him by the L^d B^p Bath and Welles, concerning some Opposition which a Religious Society in Bath doe's meet with in Welles,

16. Order'd that Mr. Shute doe's send thither a parcel of the Abstracts of Dr. Woodward's Book about Religious Societies, as many as he shall think fit.

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[1] Trade with Turkey began in 1550. The Turkey or Levant Company of London was instituted by charter of Elizabeth in 1579.

17. Mr. Stubs mov'd the Society for a parcel of Books and papers, to be distributed by Mr. Wats, Minister of Orpington in Kent.

18. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish him with a Parcell.

19. Mr. More moving the Society for a Parcel of Books and Papers to be dispersed among the Seamen coming with Coals to Cambridge,

20. Order'd that the Treasurer do furnish him according to his discretion.

21. Mr. Shute producing divers Treatises about the Holy Sacrament, Dr. Ashton's[1] Exhortation to the Holy Communion was pitch'd upon to be put into the Packet.

Thursday, 10 June, 1703.

Present: Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bulstrode, S^r^ John Philipps, Dr. Davies and Mr. Collins and Mr. More Correspondents, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bradley a Correspondent, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Newman a Correspondent.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair.

1. Order'd that the Agents for Schools, be consulted about the Erection of a Charity School at Ware in Hertfordshire.

2. Resolv'd that for the future, as soon as so many Members of the Society are met together, as are sufficient to make a Quorum ; The Chairman for the time being shall call upon them all, to Attend the business of the Society.

3. Mr. Stubs moving the Society for some of their Books and Papers, to be dispers'd among the English Residing in Moscow and Archangel,

4. Order'd that the Treasurer do deliver Mr. Stubs a Parcel of Books and Papers, whose value shall not exceed 20 shillings, to be sent to Mr. Rumston, the English Chaplain at Archangel.[2]

5. The Agents being called in,

6. Mr. Michel Reported, that there ha's been lately Bequeathed the sums of Fifty pounds and Ten Pounds to the Grey Coat Hospital at Westminster ; and of one Hundred pounds to the School at St. Martins in the Fields.

7. Mr. Gardiner Reported that the School at St. Sepulchers for 50 Girls Clothed is now compleated.

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[1] William Assheton, D.D., born 1641, Chaplain to Duke of Ormond, Rector of St. Antholin, London, 1675 ; Rector of Beckenham, where he died in 1711. Author of several works, amongst others of a "Pension Scheme for Widows of Clergymen."

[2] The passage to Archangel was discovered by Chancellor in 1553. It was the only seaport of Russia till the foundation of St. Petersburg in 1703. The English Russian Company was established in 1553, and a considerable trade was subsequently carried on.

8. Mr. Skate Reported, that the School at Aldgate for 20 Boys and 20 Girls is now compleated.

9. Mr. Brewster deliver'd the Draught of Settlement for the Library at Bedford with some amendments, which Mr. Chairman was desired to Read over, and bring to the next meeting.

10. Letters were Read from Mr. Harrison of Stanton, Mr. Tanner[1] the Chancellor of Norwich and Mr. Tottis of Eccleshall : and from Mr. Foster of Deverell (to Mr. Shute).

Thursday, 17 June, 1703.

Present: Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, S^r^ John Philipps, Dr. Slare, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Weekes, Dr. Davies and Mr. Bradley and Mr. More Correspondents, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Newman a Correspondent.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair.

1. Mr. Shute acquainting the Society that His Printers had, by mistake, printed 3,000 of the first Sheets of Mr. Ostervald's Catechism, instead of 2000 ; and that the said sheet being an Abridgement of the History of the Bible, in entire discourse of its self, independent of the remaining part of the Book : He mov'd the Society to take off 1,000 of these first sheets at the Prime Costs :

2. Agreed that 1,000 Copies of the said sheet be bought, and inserted in to the Packets.

3. Mr. Weekes who was formerly Approved, did Attend and Subscribe.

4. Mr. Dunch was Approv'd of as a Residing Member ; and S^r^ John Philipps to desire his Attendance.

5. Mr. Chairman delivering in the Draught of Settlement for the Library at Bedford,

6. Order'd that the Secretary do send it to Mr. Frank by the first Opportunity.

7. A Letter was Read from Mr. Davenport of Buckland to Mr. Stubs (he ha's the former back).

8. Agreed that Mr. Stubs be desired to write to him again.

9. Two Letters from Mr. Ludolf at the Hague to Mr. Chamberlayne were Read.

10. A Letter from Mr. Gibson[2] of Welbourn to Dr. Will. Hustler was Read.

11. A Letter from Mr. Grave of Lewes to Mr. Shute was Read and order'd to be taken into Consideration at next Meeting.

12. A Letter was Read from Dr. Assheton of Beckenham.

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[1] Thomas Tanner, the celebrated antiquary. Born in Wiltshire, 1674 ; Chancellor of the Diocese of Norwich, 1701; Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, 1723 ; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1732 ; died 1735. His "Notitia Monastica," and "Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica," are still valuable works.

[2] John Gibson, D.D., Prebendary of Lincoln, and afterwards Provost of Queen's College, Oxford.

Thursday, 24 June, 1703.

Present: Mr. Bulstrode, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, S^r^ John Philipps, the Secretary, Dr. Davies and Mr. Margets Correspondents, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmoth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair.

1. Agreed that the Rev^d^ Mr. Margett be a Corresponding Member for Kempston in Bedfordshire.

2. Mr. Stubs proposed to the Society, that since the hour of Meeting is four a clock in the afternoon, he would if they thought it fit, celebrate the Evening Service of the Church at half an hour past three a clock, at which time the Members of the Society may have an Opportunity of Assisting thereat, before the business of the Society be begun.

3. Agreed that this Society will embrace this Opportunity of being present at the Evening Service, before the Private Devotions of the Society be perform'd.

4. Agreed that Mr. Bulstrode be continued Chairman for the Month ensuing.

5. Mr. Treasurer moved the Society for a Parcel of Books and Papers, to be given to the Seamen on board the ship Nottingham, where Captain Whitaker ha's promis'd to see them dispos'd in the best manner.

6. Agreed that the Treasurer do furnish the Captain with a suitable parcel of Books and Papers, the value not exceeding twenty shillings.

7. The Agents being called in,

8. Mr. Skate Reported that the School at Aldgate for 20 Boys and 20 Girls is now open'd.

9. Mr. Hodges propos'd that some Way might be found out for taking off the Boys and Girls from the Charity Schools, when they are grown up ; which the Society agreed to consider of at the next Meeting.

10. The two first Circular Letters to the Clergy Correspondents being read to the Society, 'twas Order'd that the last Paragraph but two in the second Letter should be thus written, for the future, *they will assist you in obtaining such Numbers, at the easiest Rates, as shall be sufficient to furnish these poor People*, &c. And that in the first Paragraph of the first Letter, it shall be written for the future, *of good Character*.

11. A Letter was Read from Mr. Disney of Lincoln.

Thursday, 1 July, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Bulstrode, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Collins, Mr. Chamberlayne, the Secretary, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Brewster, Mr. More a Correspondent, Dr. Bray.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair.

1. Agreed that a Parcell of Books and papers, such as shall be thought proper by Mr. Shute and Mr. Chamberlayne, be sent to Mr. Gibson of Welbourne, the value not exceeding twenty shillings.

2. Mr. Shute acquainting the Society that the Lord Bishop of Worcester doe's desire that his Subscription may be applied toward the Support of the Charity-School at Shadwell, which was sett up by his Lordship, in case that the said School cannot continue without it,

3. Agreed that in this case the L^d B^p of Worcester's Subscription be thus applied.

4. Order'd that a parcel of books and Papers be sent to Mr. Cotton, upon his desire, the value not exceeding 50 shillings.

5. Mr. Shute being to go into the Countrey, mov'd the Society for a parcel of Books and Papers, to distribut there.

6. Order'd that he take such a parcel as he shall think fit.

7. A Letter was read from Mr. Disney of Lincoln.

Thursday, 8 July, 1703.

Present: S^r John Philipps, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Sturmy and Mr. More Correspondents, Mr. Bradley and Mr. Grabe Correspondents, Mr. Gerard, the Secretary.

Mr. Bromfield in the Chair, being deputed by Mr. Bulstrode.

1. Agreed that the consideration of a Method of taking the bigger Boys and Girls off from the Charity-Schools, be adjourn'd to the next Meeting.

2. Mr. Stubs acquainting the Society that on Monday next 2 Sail of Ships will set out for Russia,[1] and desiring some Papers for them,

3. Order'd that 3 Packets for the Commanders of Merchants Ships be deliver'd to Mr. Stubs, for them.

4. A Letter was Read from Mr. Troughton of Grantham.

5. A Letter was Read from Mr. Hill of Lincoln accepting the Correspondence.

Thursday, 15 July, 1703.

Present: Mr. Bulstrode, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Stubs, the Secretary, who not being a Quorum, they did adjourn to this day sennight.

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[1] See note page 232.

Thursday, 22 July, 1703.

Present: S^r John Philipps, Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, the Secretary, who not being a Quorum they did adjourn to Thursday the 16th of September.

Thursday, 2 September, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hodges, the Secretary.
Mr. Stubs in the Chair.

1. Agreed that Mr. Stubs be Chairman for this Month.
2. Mr. Shute Reported that he had been in the West, and had taken such care that his Charity-School at Kilmeresdon will be Open'd at Michaelmass.
3. Also, that at Shipton-Mallet there is a very good Disposition in the People toward the Erection of a School there ; and a Likelyhood of the £6 a year (part of the L^d B^p of Bath and Welles's Subscription to this Society) being applied to it, by his Lordship.
4. Also, that at Warminster in Wiltshire, there is the like good Disposition, for a School there, toward the Erection of which, the R^t Hon^ble the L^d Weymouth ha's promis'd to Subscribe.
5. Mr. Stubs acquainted the Society that an antient Gentlewoman is desirous of setting up a Charity-School for Girls in St. Edmunds Parish at Sarisbury, towards which she is willing to give the sum of £500 ; and he desiring the Advice of the Society as to the most ready and effectuall Manner of doing it : 'Twas answer'd that it might be proper for her to bequeath this sum to certain Persons, in trust, to this end : and forthwith to transmit 20 or £25 to the Minister and Churchwardens of that Parish, requesting them to pitch upon a fit Place, and to set up such a School with all speed.
6. Mr. Stubs acquainting the Society that his Sermon entituled *God's Domion over the Sea*, is translated into French, and about to be printed, in order to be distributed amongst the French Seamen who are Prisoners here,
7. Agreed that this Society will purchase 200 of them to be given accordingly.
8. A Letter from Mr. Nichol (a Missionary to Uplands in Pensylvania) to Mr. Stubs, was read,
9. The case of Mr. Sandylands and Mrs. Everard (both Quaker Preachers and Converts) being represented to the Society ;
10. Order'd that it be Consider'd at next Meeting.

Thursday, 9 Sep., 1703.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, but not making a Quorum adjourn'd to 16th.

Thursday, 16 Sep., 1703.

Present: Mr. Arch-Deacon Boothe, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs.

Mr. Stubs in the Chair.

1. The Agents of Scholes desiring that application might be made to my Lord of London for his Letter to y^e^ Justises of Brentford towards the encouragement of a Charity Schole there, Mr. Chamberlayne kindly undertook the manage of that affair.

2. The Consideration of a Method for taking off the bigger Boys and Girls from the Charity Scholes is referred to a full meeting.

3. The Gentlewoman who was desirous of setting up a Schole for Girls in Salisbury, has acquainted Mr. Stubs that she has alter'd her mind and designs to fix it in London where she intends to reside.

4. Mr. Arch-Deacon Booth motioning that y^e^ Charity-Children be taught a Short Collect before and after Divine Service, with a Grace before and after meat, as also suitable Prayers for morning and evening, the Agents for Scholes are desired to enquire into the methods of the Schole-Masters proceedings in these particulars.

Thursday, 30th September, 1703.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Shute, the Secretary.

The Lord Guilford in the Chair, Mr. Stubs being sick.

1. Agreed that the R^t^ Hon^ble^ the Lord Guilford be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

2. Agreed that the case of Mr. Sandylands and Mrs. Everard be consider'd at next Meeting.

3. A Letter to Mr. Hodges from Mr. D'Effray was read, touching a young Jew who desire's to become a Christian.

4. Mr. Chamberlayne Reported that he had attended the L^d^ B^p^ of London who was pleas'd to write to Mr. Justice Hawley about the Erection of a School at Brentford.

5. It being propos'd to the Society to meet this Winter at the vestry of St. Clement Danes Church,

6. Order'd that the Members be summon'd to meet here this day sevennight to consider upon this Affair.

7. Order'd that the Messenger at his Collection of the Quarterly Subscriptions, do present each member of the Society with one of the Translations of Mr. Ostervalds Catechism's bound up in Calf, at the Charge of the Society.

8. Mr. Hodges proposing that the Form of Prayer used in the Church of Neuf-châtel upon Saturday Evenings, should be added to

the Translation of Mons^r Ostervalds Catechism, the Society Agreed to it.

Thursday, 7 October, 1703.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Dr. Bray, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, the Secretary, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Thorold and Mr. Innes Correspondents, Mr. George Psallmanasaar a Native of Formosa.

The Lord Guilford in the Chair.

1. Mr. Shute Moving the Society to consider of some Method of Training up Masters for Charity-Schools in the Countrey who are very much wanted there,

2. Agreed that this be Refer'd to the next Meeting, and that the Agents be desired to Attend.

3. Mr. Morer[1] was Approv'd for a Residing Member, and Mr. Stubs to desire his Attendance.

4. Mr. Innes, who is Chaplain-General to the Land Forces now going for Portugal, was approv'd of for a Corresponding Member, being propos'd by Mr. Chamberlayne.

5. Mr. Sandylands and Mrs. Everards case being taken into Consideration,

6. Agreed that a Subscription and Collection be made for their Relief, and that the Secretary do draw up a Preamble against the next Meeting.

7. Agreed that the Consideration of a New Place of Meeting be Adjourn'd to this day sennight.

8. Mr. Gerard brought five pounds as a Present to the Society from a Gentleman who desires to be unknown. To whom the Society desired their Thanks to be return'd.

9. A Letter was read from Mr. Dorrington[2] of Wittresham to Mr. Hodges, about his late book entituled *The Plain Mans Gift of Prayer*, a Copie whereof he did therewith transmitt to the Society.

10. Agreed that Mr. Hodges be desired to give Mr. Dorrington the Thanks of the Society for the same.

11. Agreed that 100 of the Sea-Packets, and 500 of the *Addresses to Seamen*, the remaining part of the Soldiers Monitors, and some of the other Papers (at the Discretion of the Treasurer) be deliver'd to Mr. Innes, in order to the dispersing them among the Soldiers and Seamen on board the Fleet now going for Portugal.[3]

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[1] Thomas Morer, B.D., Rector of St. Ann's, Aldergate, and Lecturer of St. Lawrence Jewry. Author of "Fifteen Sermons preached on Several Occasions." London: 1717.

[2] Theophilus Dorrington, Rector of Witresham. Author of numerous religious works.

[3] This was the expedition under Admiral Rooke, which captured Gibraltar in the following year.

Thursday, 14 October, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Chamberlayne, Coll. Colchester, the Secretary.

Mr. Chamberlayne in the Chair, being deputed by the Lord Guilford.

1. Order'd that Mr. Randal (at his return to Town) be enquired of, concerning Joseph Jonas the Jewish Convert.

2. Mr. Chamberlayne acquainted the Society that he had seen Mr. Justice Hawley this day, who own'd the Receipt of the Lord B^p^ of London's Letter, and added that a Charity School is now actually open'd at Brentford, and some Boys already taken in, and that he promis'd to encourage it all he could.

3. A Motion being made about the Reprinting his Grace the Lord A. B. of Canterburie's late Letter to the Arch-Deacons and Clergy of the Diocess of St. Davids: in order to it's being inserted into the Societies Ordinary Packetts:

4. Agreed that Coll. Colchester, Mr. Stubs, and Mr. Chamberlayne be desired to move his Grace in this Affair.

5. Mr. Stubs acquainted the Society that he ha's received a Letter from S^r^ John Philipps, who desire's 6 dozen of School-Catechisms.

6. Order'd that they be transmitted to him.

7. The Agents being called in,

8. It was recommended to them to consider of a proper Method of training up Charity-School-master for the Countrey, which they promis'd to do against next Meeting.

9. Mr. Grave of Lewes having sent a Letter concerning a New Method of teaching the Poor Children in the Charity-Schools to Write, with a specimen of the same,

10. Order'd that both Papers be refer'd to the consideration of the Agents.

11. Mr. Skate moving the Society for some books and Papers which will be dispers'd on board, by Mr. Pike, now going to the East-Indies:

12. Order'd that the Treasurer do deliver a parcel, according to his Discretion, the value not exceeding 20 shillings.

13. A Letter being read from Mr. Love the Minister of Yarmouth to Mr. Shute,

14. Order'd that the Secretary do invite him to the Correspondence.

15. A Letter was read from Mr. Disney of Lincolne.

Thursday, 21 October, 1703.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Manyngham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Morer, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Chamberlayne, S^r^ Will. Hustler, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Dr.

Slare, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Coll. Colchester.

The Lord Guilford in the Chair.

1. The Preamble to a Subscription for the Relief of Mr. Sandylands and Mrs. Everard being Read and Debated,

2. Agreed that it be further Consider'd by a Committee, who are to meet at Mr. Brewsters Chambers, on Tuesday next by 3 a clock.

3. Agreed that Dr. Bray, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Brewster, and Mr. Hodges be that Committee.

4. The Minute about a New Place of Meeting being taken into Consideration and Debated,

5. Agreed that it be Adjourn'd for the present, and Resum'd at a full Meeting.

6. The Agents for Schools being called in,

7. They deliver'd in their Proposals about the training up of Masters for the Countrey Charity-Schools.

8. They Reported that the Method for the better Teaching the Poor Children to Write which was transmitted by Mr. Grave of Lewes is already frequently practis'd.

9. The Minute of June 30th, 1701, relating to those poor Children of extraordinary parts, being mentioned and taken into Consideration,

10. Order'd that for the Future, the Agents do make this Society acquainted with the Names and Qualifications of such Poor Boys bred up in the Charity-Schools as excell the Rest in pregnancy of Parts.

11. The Agents also Reported, that a Friend of Mr. Yeates's will put some Rents to the value of 17 pound, into the Hands of this Society, for the behoof and Encouragement of Charity-Schools,

12. Order'd that the Agents do make a particular Enquiry about this affair, and make their Report at next Meeting.

13. They also Reported that the School at St. George's in Southwark is in so bad a Condition, that at the 29th of September last past, there did and does still remain £12. 13s. 4d. due to Mr. Prue the Schoolmaster.

14. Order'd that this Affair together with the Proposals now deliver'd in by the Agents, be refer'd to the abovemention'd Committee.

15. The Treasurer Moving the Society that his Accompts may be Audited :

16. Agreed that a Committe do meet here this day sennight at three a clock for this purpose :

17. Agreed that Mr. Stubs, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Grabe, or any three of them, be that Committee.

18. A Letter was Read from Mr. Langton of Newton-Park.

Thursday, 28 October, 1703.

Present: the Lord Guilford, Mr. Hoar, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Chamberlayne, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Shute, Mr. Morer, Mr. Foster a Correspondent, Mr. Gerard, S^r^ Will. Hustler, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Dr. Bray, Mr. Brewster.

The Lord Guilford in the Chair.

1. Coll. Colchester Reported that he had presented the Societies Request to his Grace the L^d^ A. B. of Canterbury, about Reprinting his Graces Late Letter to the Arch-Deacons and Clergy of the Diocess of St. Davids : and that his Grace was pleas'd to say that he left it to their Disposal.

2. Agreed that Coll. Colchester, Mr. Chamberlayne, and Mr. Stubs do return the thanks of this Society to his Grace for this favor.

3. Order'd that 2,000 Copies of this Letter be Reprinted at the Charges of this Society, and that Mr. Treasurer do take Care of the Impression.

4. Mr. Andrews was Approv'd and Mr. Hodges to desire his Attendance.

5. Agreed that the Reverend Mr. Stevens of Shrivenham in Berkshire, be a Corresponding Member of this Society.

6. Mr. Shute acquainted the Society that he ha's lately recd. a Letter from the L^d^ B^p^ of Bath and Welles, wherein he writes that there is £30 aid subscribed toward a Charity-School at Shipton-Mallet in Somersetshire.

7. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

8. Mr. Chamberlayne Reported from the Committee which met at Mr. Brewster's according to Order, that they having consider'd the Condition of the School at St. George's in Southwark, their Opinion was, that the Society should be Mov'd to discharge the £12. 13s. 4d. due to the Schoolmaster, and insure him a Quarters Salary further in case the subscriptions for it shall then fall short.

9. Resolved that this Society will discharge the said sum of £12. 13s. 4d. (after the Treasurer shall be reimbursed with what appear's now due to him from the Society), and that another Quarters Salary be hereby ensured to the Schoolmaster, whenever the Subscriptions shall be deficient.

10. Coll. Colchester Reported that the Committee for Auditing the Treasurers Accompts had met, and Audited the same accordingly, and that they had found the Ballance of the same to be £35. 14s. 3d. which is due to the Treasurer.

11. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Shute for his great Services to it.

12. A Letter was read from Mr. Hales (dated 29 of September last) to Mr. Chamberlayne, wherein he desiring Advice what little Treatise he had best to cause to be Printed for the use of the afflicted Refugees

from Orange : The Society desired Mr. Chamberlayne in his Answer to recommend (besides B^p^ Kenn's Exposition [1] mentioned by Mr. Hales), Mr. Kettlewell's Offices for the Persecuted, the Pastoral Letter, and the Christian Monitor.

13. A Latin Letter (inclosed in Mr. Hales's) from Jean Osiander Abbat of Hirschaug to the Count of Wartemberg, &c., being read,

14. Order'd that the Secretary do Translate it against next Meeting.

15. Order'd that Mr. Low be a Corresponding Member for Yarmouth.

16. Agreed that Mr. Nelson be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

Thursday, 4 November, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Foster a Correspondent, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Mr. Hoar, the Lord Guilford, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Newman a Correspondent.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Mr. Stubs Reported from the Committee which lately met at Mr. Brewsters, that they were of opinion that the Subscription for Mr. Sandylands should be distinct and separate from that of Mrs. Everard ; and that they had drawn up a Preamble in this manner ; which Preamble being Read, was Approv'd, and Order'd to be fair Written.

2. Mrs. Everard being call'd in,

3. Mr. Chairman conferr'd with her at large, touching her way of living ; and asked her divers Questions, as whether there was any difference between her Husband and her ? Whether they were separated ? What children she has ? How disposed ? &c. To all which she returned Answers to the Satisfaction of the Society, Whereupon,

4. 'Tis Agreed, that this Society will procure the sum of Twenty pounds, for the present Relief and Encouragement of this Mrs. Mary Everard, by way of Trading in Chocolate, Tea and Coffee.[2]

5. Order'd that the Secretary do draw up a Preamble to a Subscription for this purpose against next Meeting.

6. A Debate arising about a new place of Meeting, and the Questhouse at St. Dunstan's Church being propos'd as a convenient place,

7. Agreed that Mr. Hoar, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bulstrode, Dr. Slare,

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[1] "Kenn's Exposition of the Church Catechism," extracted from "The Practice of Divine Love."

[2] Chocolate was sold in the London coffee-houses soon after their establishment in 1650. Pepys records his first cup of tea in 1660. East India Company first imported it in 1669. In 1715 ordinary black tea was over 13s. per lb.

or any three of them, be desir'd to inspect the Quest-house at St. Dunstan's Church, and that they do make their Report of it at next Meeting.

8. The Secretary acquainted the Society that Mr. Skate had waited upon Mr. Yeates, who being very ill, could not at that time be so properly discours'd withall about the £17 per ann. mention'd in the Min. of Octob. 21 last, but that he would bring the particulars about it to the next Meeting.

9. Mr. Stubs Reported from the abovementioned Committee, that they were of Opinion that the three first Articles in the Agents Proposals about Training up Masters for the Charity-Schools, should be inserted into the Printed Paper of Orders for those Schools at the next Impression of it; to which the Society Agreed.

10. The Secretary produced his Translation of Dr. Osianders Letter which was read.

Thursday, 11 November, 1703.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Akers a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Mr. Hoar, Mr. Hodges, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Mr. Trymmer.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Agreed that Mr. Hales's last letter to Mr. Chamberlayne, with Dr. Osiander's which was enclos'd therein, be both laid before the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts at their next Meeting.

2. Dr. Chetwood, Arch-D. of York desiring a Specimen of the Societies Books and Papers:

3. Order'd that a Packet be deliver'd to Mr. Chamberlayne for him.

4. Mr. Akers of Blewbury acquainting the Society with the state of the Charity-School at East-Hagbourn, which ha's been broke up, ever since the last Harvest,

5. Agreed that this Society will allow another sum (not exceeding two pounds) for the Opening the same School again, Provided there be a sufficient Subscription for the carrying it on, for another year.

6. Mr. Bromfield producing some Letters and Papers from Mr. Kirkwood concerning the Erecting of Lending Libraries in the Highlands, which being read,

7. Order'd that the Secretary do draw up a Letter, in order to recommend this good Design to all the Correspondents of this Society, and that he do bring it to the next Meeting.

8. Order'd that such Papers and little Tracts which have not already been communicated to the Correspondents, be observ'd, and inserted into the next little Packet.

9. Order'd that the Treasurer do consider of a proper Method of distributing the 200 French Translations of Mr. Stubs's late Sermon, Entituled *God's Dominion over the Sea*, &c.

10. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

11. Mr. Skate Reported that there is now £6 per ann. Subscribed towards the School in Spittle-fields.

12. Mr. Michel Reported that the School at Brentford goe's on but slowly, notwithstanding a Prospect there is of some considerable Subscriptions thereunto. Whereupon the Society desired Mr. Hoar to confer with Mr. Justice Hawley upon this Affair.

13. They delivering in a Letter from Mr. Yeate, wherein 'twas certified that a certain Gentleman is willing to assign to this Society a Lease of six Houses in Gloucester Court for the promotion of Charity-Schools :

14. Agreed that Mr. Brewster and Mr. Melmoth be desired to enquire into this Matter, and to make a Report of it at next Meeting.

15. The Minutes of 20 May last, about a Procession of the Poor Children taught in the Charity Schools, being taken into consideration and Debated,

16. Order'd that all the Poor Children with their Masters and Mistresses, do meet or Rendevous together at two proper Places, on St. Innocents day next in the Forenoon, and thence to walk decently in Procession so as to meet altogether at St. Andrew's Church in Holbourn at a certain Hour, and there be present at Divine Service, &c.[1]

17. The Agents also did propose the procuring a General Act of Parliament for encorporating a body of men for the receiving of Charitable Benefactions to be given to the School or Workhouse (commonly called the Grey-Coat-Hospital) in St. Margaret, Westminster. Of this Matter, the Society took time to consider.

18. Mr. Nelson laid upon the Table a dangerous Libel intituled *The Principles of the Protestant Reformation Explain'd*, &c.,[2] and acquainted them with the ill Principles contained and suggested therein ; as also that he had already taken care to send one of them to a Minister of State, with a Letter desiring him to take cognizance of the matter, and care to find out and punish the Author and Printer. For which information the Society return'd him their Thanks.

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[1] The view given in the frontispiece furnishes an idea of the number of these children which could be got together on a great occasion, such as the Thanksgiving for Peace, 7th July, 1713.

[2] The author of this tract was the Rev. W. Stephens, Rector of Sutton, in Surrey. For a tract of a similar character, written in the following year, he was fined 100 marks, and sentenced to stand twice in the pillory. Mr. Nelson wrote a reply to the former, under the title "The Necessity of Church Communion Vindicated from the scandalous Aspersions of a late Pamphlet intituled, &c. &c." A copy of this rare tract is in the Lambeth Library.

19. Mr. Vigerus Edwards was Approv'd for a Residing Member, and Mr. Bromfield to desire his Attendance.

20. The Preamble to a Subscription for Mr. Sandylands, produc'd by the Secretary, being read, was subscribed by such Members as were present :

21. Order'd that the Messenger do carry it to the rest of the Resident Members, and recommend him to their Charity : delivering the Moneys by him collected to Mr. Stubs.

22. The Secretary producing a Preamble to a Subscription for Mrs. Everard, 'twas read, and w^th^ an Amendment approv'd.

23. Order'd that the Secretary do transcribe it, and bring it to the next Meeting.

24. Mr. Hoare Reported from the Committee appointed to view the Quest-house at St. Dunstan's Church, that they had been there accordingly, and do find it to be very convenient for the Meetings of the Society.

25. Order'd that the Absent Members be summon'd to the next Meeting, the reason being specified.

26. A Letter was read from Mr. Grave of Lewes.

Thursday, 18 November, 1703.

Present: Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Reynolds, S^r^ John Philipps, S^r^ Edmund Turner, Coll. Colchester, S^r^ W^m^ Hustler, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Mr. Mores, Mr. Seaman, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, A. D. Kennett, the Lord Guilford, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Vigerus Edwards, Mr. Bromfield.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Order'd that the Secretary do write to those Gentlemen who have propos'd others for Residing Members of this Society, who having been Approv'd as such, have not Appear'd at the Meetings of the Society, or not Subscrib'd.

2. Agreed that Dr. Manningham be put in Mind of the Minute of 8 April 1703, concerning a Treatise upon the Subject of Restitution.

3. Dr. Slare acquainted the Society that Mr. Neale ha's some small houses, which he is willing to give as a foundation for an Erection of a Charity-School at Ware in Hertfordshire, if it may be Encouraged by this Society.

4. Order'd that the Agents for Schools be certified of this Matter, and that they do Apply themselves to the promotion of it.

5. The Secretary producing a Draught of a new Letter to the Correspondents, it was read, and with an Amendment Approv'd.

6. He also produced a new Paragraph to be inserted into the second General Letter ; which being read, was with some Amendments Aprov'd, and order'd to be inserted into the future copies of that

letter for the Encouragement of Lending Libraries in the Scotch Highlands.

7. Agreed that a Committee be appointed for Considering of a proper Method for Erecting Lending Libraries in Wales, where they are extreamly Wanted.

8. Agreed that neither of the abovementioned Draughts produced by the Secretary be sent away, 'till Mr. Kirkwood ha's attended the Society: and that the debate about the Scotch Libraries be adjourned till his Appearance.

9. Agreed that the L^d B^p of Bangor, Mr. Lloyd, Dr. Bray, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, S^r John Philipps, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Brewster, or any three of them, be the Committee for the Erection of Lending Libraries in Wales: and they to meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, on Tuesday next at 7 a clock in the Evening.

10. The Debate about Removing the Meetings of the Society to the Quest-house at St. Dunstan's Church being resum'd,

11. Agreed that the former Committee for this Affair, or any three of them, do again Meet, and consider of what is necessary to be provided in order to the Society's meeting at that Quest-house, and that they make their Report at next Meeting.

12. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Stubs, for his great kindness shewed unto it, ever since their removing to his house, and for the Liberty of Meeting therein.

Thursday, Nov. 25, 1703.

At Sion Colledge.

Present: Mr. Nelson, S^r John Philips, Dr. Davis, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Kirkwood, Dr. Slare, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Sturmy, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Grabe, Mr. Weeks, Mr. Hodges.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne be still desired to lay Mr. Hales's and Dr. Osiander's Letters before the Corporation.

2. Mr. Stubs acquainting the Society that he deliverd 50 of his Sea Sermons translated into French to 90 French Seamen prisoners near the Tower, they rec^d some of y^m kindly and desired some New Testaments: Order'd that he be allowed 10s. for that service when he visits them next, if he find it convenient.

3. Mr. Hoar is desired to speak to Justice Hawley about the Charity Schole at Brentford.

4. Agreed that Dr. Manningham have notice from the Secretary of the Procession intended on Innocents day to his Church, and that He be desired to prepare such a Discourse from y^e Desk or Pulpit as he shall judge most proper on such an occasion.

5. Ordered that the Minute of the Act of Parliament for incorporating the School at Westminster be referred to a full meeting. Col.

Colchester is desired to take the Chair for y^e^ next Month, and that the Secretary do acquaint him therewith.

6. Some informations being hinted with respect to y^e^ ill conduct of Mr. Power School-master of Shadwell, order'd that the Agents be desired to enquire concerning him.

7. Dr. Davies making a Proposal for some assistance towards erecting a Charity School at Clavering in Essex, a large and poor Town, tis agreed that Dr. Davies do give encouragement to the Persons concerned to hope for y^e^ assistance asked of y^e^ Society, after they have used their endeavors in getting Subscriptions thereto.

8. A Letter was read from Mr. Delavar to Dr. Slare, giving an acco^t^ that near Southam in Gloucestershire there is a School set up, and that the Minist^r^ is very diligent in Catechising ; and withall that he's desirous to set up a School in his own Parish, and desires the advice of the Society.

9. Order'd that Mr. Grant and y^e^ Church-wardens of St. Dunstan have the thanks of the Society for the Liberty given to y^e^ Society for meeting in their Vestry-room every Thursday.

10. Dr. Slare and Mr. Brewster reported that they had view'd the Room mention'd, and that y^e^ following necessarys were wanted ; 8 chairs, whereof one to be elbow'd, a curtain for the windows, wood for firing, candles, lanthorns for the Stair-case, and a Hammer, &c.

11. Order'd that y^e^ Treasurer do provide them accordingly, so that the Society may meet there next Thursday being the second of December, and that the messenger do summon the members thither accordingly.

12. Several reports having been made to y^e^ Society concerning the Soldier in the Tower who became blind upon an imprecation that he might be so if he was guilty of a theft charged upon him, Order'd that a Committee be appointed to enquire farther of y^e^ fact, and to make a Report of it to y^e^ Society in writing. (Mr. Ch. ha's the papers.)

13. That S^r^ Rich^d^ Blackmore, Dr. Slare, Col. Colchester, S^r^ John Philips, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Bray, Dr. Davies, Dr. Woodward, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute and Mr. Brewster be that Committee, or any five of y^m^, meeting at Tarts Coffee-House in Smithfield on Monday next at 11 of the clock.

14. Mr. Kirkwood attending, and giving the Society satisfaction about the Librarys for the Highlands in Scotland, agreed that 2 Paragraphs order'd to be drawn up by y^e^ Secretary be by him sent to the Correspondents according to former order.

15. S^r^ John Philips and Mr. Brewster gave in this Report as to y^e^ Houses offer'd the Society by Mr. Yeate's Friend, that they had spoken w^th^ him, that he confirm'd his Grant, and left it to y^e^ Society either to accept y^e^ Lease or dispose of the Houses as they think fit, and employ the mony to y^e^ improvem^t^ of Charity Schools.

16. A Letter from Mr. Professor Whiston at Cambridge was read relating to the great encouragem^t^ of Charity Schools there, and y^t^ y^e^

Subscriptions particularly amount to £200 per annum. The Secretary to answer it w^th^ the thanks of y^e^ Society for such good Intelligence, and to assure him y^t^ y^e^ Paper containing an acco^t^ of Schools should stay till they had compleated their work.

17. A Letter from Mr. Peploe of Preston was read giving an account of a School establish'd in that Town for 30 poor boys, upon £400 rais'd for our, and other contingent Subscriptions. The Secretary to answer it w^th^ thanks.

18. A Letter from Mr. Low of N. Yarmouth, accepting y^e^ Correspondence, and giving an acco^t^ of a hopefull prospect of erecting a School there.

19. A Letter from Mr. Arch-Deacon Entwisle to Mr. Stubs was read ab^t^ y^e^ School at Chester.

20. A Letter from the Revr^t^ Mr. Stephens of Shrevenham, Berkshire, accepting y^e^ Correspondence.

Thursday, 2 December, 1703.

The Quest-house of St. Dunstans.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Hoare, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Neville, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Bulstrode, Dr. Davies a Correspondent, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bromfield, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Trymmer, S^r^ George Wheler a Correspondent, the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Agreed that Dr. Manningham be desired to Treat with Mr. Chiswel the Bookseller about reprinting A. B. Tillotson's 2 Sermons concerning Restitution, in a small Letter, so as to sell for 6d.

2. Order'd that the Treasurer do lay a Copie of the late B^p^ of Bath and Wells's Treatise upon the sins of Infirmity, Presumption, and upon Restitution, before the Society at next Meeting.

3. Order'd that the Treasurer do bring a List of the Books and Papers contain'd in the Societies Ordinary Packet, to the next Meeting.

4. Mr. Grave of Lewes writing to Mr. Shute that the Societies Books and Papers may do great good at Brighthelmston in Sussex, if distributed amongst the Poor People there by the Minister thereof, who is a very worthy Person :

5. Order'd that the Treasurer do send a Parcel to Mr. Grave, for this use ; the value not exceeding 20s.

6. Mr. Thoroughgood More having desired a small parcel of Papers, of 5s. value, to be transmitted to him now at Cambridge ; Order'd that they be sent accordingly.

7. Order'd that 200 Copies of the first Sheet of Mr. Ostervald's

Catechism, being an Abridgem[t] of the Bible, be sent to Mr. Trymmer, and 50 more to Dr. Slare.

8. Order'd that Mr. Shute do distribute the Societies usual Allowance to Mr. Stub's Servants.

9. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

10. They desired a longer time than the next Innocents day, for bringing all the poor Children to St. Andrews Church in Holbourn; which being debated, the Society Agreed to leave the Time and place of Meeting to them.

11. A little Booke being deliver'd in to the Society, being translated out of French, and written by Madame Guion, and entituled *A Short and easie Method of Prayer*,[1] and printed by Mr. Downing, which containing many dangerous points: Order'd that Mr. Downing be certified that if he prints any more such like Books, he shall print no longer for the Society.

12. The Agents delivering in a Proposal in Writing for the Establishing of Corporations by Act of Parliament, for receiving of Charities given or to be given to Charity-Schools, It was Read, and being Debated,

13. Order'd that this Affair be referr'd to a Committee, and they to meet on Munday next at 10 a Clock, at Vigers's Coffee-house.

14. Agreed that the Lord Guilford, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Comyns, S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Serj[t] Hooke, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bromfield, or any three of them be that Committee.

15. S[r] John Philipps Reporting that he and Mr. Brewster had discours'd with Mr. Yeate's Friend concerning the Houses mention'd in the last Weeke's Minutes, and a debate arising thereupon,

16. Agreed that this Affair be managed by a Committee, and they to meet at Jonathan's Coffee-house[2] on Wednesday next at 12 a Clock.

17. Agreed that Mr. Shute, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Brewster, S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Hodges, or any 3 of them be that Committee.

18. Part of a Letter from Mr. Younge of Plymouth was read, owning the Receipt of the Societies Sea-Packets, and the dispersing them in that place.

19. The Secretary producing a List of the Cities, Market and other

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[1] This was a work of the celebrated Quietist, Mme. Jeanne Marie Bouviéres de la Mothe Guyon, who was born 1648, died 1717. The book seems to teach that it is not necessary to pray for specific things, but that one should simply wait in pious meditation, and one should get all one needed.

[2] Jonathan's Coffee-house was in Change-alley. "I have been taken for a merchant upon the Exchange for above these ten years, and sometimes pass for a Jew in the assembly of stock-jobbers at Jonathan's."—*Spectator*, No. 1, 1710–11.

great Towns in England and Wales, wherein was inserted a List of the Societies Correspondents for England :

20. Order'd that it be Fram'd, against next Meeting.

Thursday, 9 December, 1703.

The Vestry of St. Dunstan's Church.

Present: Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Salmon a Correspondent, S^r^ Edmund Turner, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hoare, Dr. Slare, Mr. Trymmer, Coll. Colchester.

Mr. Stubs in the Chair being deputed by Coll. Colchester.

1. Agreed that the Character of Mr. Power be enquired after by the Agents.

2. The Agents being called in, They Reported that Mr. Downing the Printer is so sorry that he ha's incurr'd the displeasure of this Society by Printing the Translation of Madam Guyon's Book, that he is determin'd to call in all the Copies which are unsold, and to make wast Paper of them ; whereupon the Society agreed to make Mr. Downing some allowance towards his loss thereby, and that Mr. Shute shall take care of this Matter.

3. The Agents also Reported that the School at Brentford goe's on better than before ; ten pounds per ann. being subscribed thereunto, and part of it by Justice Hawley.

4. The Minute of the 25th of November relating to the soldier lately struck blind in the Tower, is still referr'd to y^e^ enquiry and consideration of the same Committee, and they to meet at Tarts Coffee-house in Smithfield, on Monday next at ten a clock.

5. Mr. Chamberlayne presented a Letter from Mr. Vernon her Ma^tics^ Envoy at Coppenhagen, and desired the Societies Instructions for the Answering it, which were given accordingly, viz^t^ that w^th^ the Thanks and Services of the Society, he should be desir'd to enquire after the Success of the Packets of Books and Papers transmitted by Dr. Mecken to the Danish Secretary of State : that by means of Dr. Brinck Mr. Ludolf, and Mr. Hales, they would endeavor to form a Society there.

6. Order'd that a Packet containing a Copie of each Book and Paper dispers'd by the Society be sent to Mr. Chamberlayne for Mr. Vernon's use.

7. Dr. Slare read part of a Letter from Mr. Ludolf at Copenhagen, giving an account of some hopes he ha's of doing good in those Northern parts.

8. Agreed that 500 Copies of the Paper entituled *The Duty of Servants* be bought of Mr. Keeble, and put into the new packet.

9. Mr. Stubs acquainted the Society that he had repaid the Treasurer the £7 which the Society did formerly advance toward the School set up in St. Alfage's Parish, the School being able now to subsist upon the Subscriptions to it.

10. Mr. Melmoth acquainting the Society that within a very few days after the late dreadful storm,[1] he saw a Play-house Bill pasted up, inviting people to be present that Evening at the Acting of a Play called the *Tempest*, which he conceived to be done in defiance of God's heavy Judgment upon us :

11. Order'd that the matter of Play-houses be refer'd to a Committee, and they to meet at St. Dunstans Quest-house this day sennight at two a clock.

12. Agreed that Mr. Melmoth, the Lord Guilford, S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ John Philipps, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Trymmer, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, all the Divines and Gentlemen of the Long Robe who are Members of this Society, or any three of them be that Committee.

13. The Treasurer presented some Copies of the late B^p^ of Bath and Wells's Treatise of the Sins of Infirmity, &c., which Treatise the Society Order'd to be put into their new Packet.

14. S^r^ John Philipps Reported that there met a very full Committee at Vigers's Coffee-house, who having made considerable Progress in the Matter to them refer'd, they desired to Meet again at the same place to-morrow morning at ten a Clock, to which the Society agreed.

15. S^r^ John Philipps Reported from the Committee appointed to manage the Affair of the Houses offer'd to the Society by Mr. Yeate's Friend, that they had viewed them ; that they are in so good condition that they withstood the late Hurricane without any damage ; and that the Tenants who hold them, do pay their Rents pretty well.

16. Agreed that the same Committee do meet again about this Affair, at Childs Coffee-house on Tuesday next by ten a Clock.

17. A Letter was Read from Dr. Todd of Penrith, who acknowledges the great good done by dispersing the Societies Papers in his neighbourhood.

16 December, 1703.

St. Dunstan's Quest-house :

Present : The Lord Bishop of Chichester, Mr. Nelson, S^r^ Edm. Turner, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Shute, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Edwards, S^r^ John Philipps, Coll Colchester, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Isaman, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Brewster

The Lord B^p^ of Chichester in the Chair, being deputed by Coll. Colchester.

1. The Treasurer producing a List of the Books and Papers con-

[1] The "*Great* Storm," one of the most terrible that ever raged in England 26, 27 Nov., 1703. The loss sustained in London alone was calculated at £2,000,000. Twelve men-of-war, with more than 1,800 men on board, were lost in sight of their own shore. The Eddystone Lighthouse was destroyed, and in it the contriver of it, Winstanley, and the persons who were with him. The Bishop of Bath and Wells (Kidder) and his wife were killed in bed in their palace.

tain'd in the Societies ordinary Packets, it was Read, and some useful Treatises being specified as out of Print, particularly the *Bristol Acct.* and the *Account of the Sufferings of the French Protestants in the Gallies*, Mr. Treasurer was desired to confer with Mr. Nutt and Mr. Downing about the Reprinting them.

2. A Letter was read from Mr. Grave of Lewes to Mr. Shute, owning the receit of the Societies Packet of Books and Papers sent by the Society for the Poor people at Brighthelmston, and that they are deliverd to Mr. Hay the Minister of that Town.

3. The Lord B^p^ of Chichester Reported from the Committee appointed to Meet about the Affair of Play-houses, that they had met accordingly, and taken it into Consideration, so as to Agree that a Suspension and Regulation of Plays, are proper to be attempted now; and in Order to this that a Representation of Reasons for a Suspension be drawn up, and presented to his Grace the Lord A. B. of Canterbury, as A. B^p^ of the Province, his Grace the A. B^p^ of York, as Lord Almoner, and the Lord B^p^ of London as B^p^ of the Diocess and Dean of Her Majesties Chapel, humbly desiring them to lay the same before Her Majesty. That it was the Opinion of the Committee that some Gentlemen should be nominated to draw up this Representation, which may procure a Suspension of Plays now, and a Regulation of them hereafter. That Mr. Nelson producing the Eleventh Volume of A. B. Tillotsons Sermons, and out of Sermon XI, upon iv. Ephes. 29, read two Paragraphs in pagg. 320 and 321, against Plays, The Committee Agreed that the said Paragraphs might be forthwith Printed and Dispersed amongst Ladies of Quality, &c., with very good Effect. Also that at the Bottom of the same Paper, a Quere may be put, whether the Acting *The Tempest* upon the next Wednesday after the late dreadful storm, at the New Play-house in Little Lincolns-Inn-Fields,[1] was Proper or Seasonable? To which Report the Society Agreed.

4. Agreed that Mr. Nelson and Mr. Melmoth be desired to draw up Reasons to this Effect, and that they with S^r^ John Philipps and Coll. Colchester do shew them to the L^d^ B^p^ of Chichester on Monday Morning next at ten a clock, and that the Time and Manner of Presenting the said Reasons, be refer'd to the Lord B^p^ of Chichester, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Melmoth.

5. Dr. Slare producing a paper from the Committee appointed to inspect the Blind Soldier, and Mr. Stubs's Report concerning the same person being desired,

6. Agreed that this Matter be referr'd to the next Meeting, and tha Mr. Stubs be desired to Attend.

7. The Agents for Schools being called in,

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[1] This was called the Duke's Theatre. It was opened by Sir W. Davenant's patent in 1662; rebuilt 1695. An Act was passed regulating Plays and Playhouses (placing them under the Lord Chamberlain) in 1737.

8. Mr. Skate Reported that there is now almost £20 per ann. subscribed toward the School at Brentford.

9. Mr. Brewster and Mr. Edwards Reported that the Committee which met at Vigers's Coffee-house had drawn up a Clause to be inserted into a Bill now about to brought into the House of Commons for the Encouragement of Sea-men.

10. Agreed that Mr. Brewster be desired to intreat S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth and Mr. Comyns to take care that the said Clause be accordingly inserted into the Bill.

11. Agreed that the Committee which met at Vigers's Coffee-house, do meet there again upon the same Affair, on Saturday next by ten a Clock.

12. Mr. Stubs producing a Written Report concerning the Houses offer'd to this Society by Mr. Yeates Friend, Order'd that the Secretary do take a dozen Copies of it

13. A Letter was read from Mr. Frank to Mr. Shute, with Thanks from some of the Clergy of Bedfordshire for the Societies care in the Draught of Settlement of the Library of Bedford, and proffering the Society a Copie of the said Draught, which he thought might be of use to their Correspondents, upon the like occasion ; whereupon Mr. Edwards undertook to cause it to be transcribed.

14. Mr. Stubs Read a Letter from Mr. Hughes the Charity-school-master at Kilmeresdon, specifying that he ha's 26 Scholars and a prospect of a flourishing School.

15. A Letter was read from Mr. Fenwick of Hallaton, promising to remit £4 to the Society.

Thursday, 23 December, 1703.

Present : The Lord B^p^ of Chester, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Shute, Mr. Masson and Mr. Newman Correspondents, S^r^ John Philipps, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Stubs.

The Lord B^p^ of Chester, in the absence of Coll. Colchester.

1. Mr. Shute Reported that Mr. Downing the Printer had assur'd him that the Prime Costs of Printing the Translation of Madam Guion's Book amounted to £12 : that he by selling some few Copies and some sent in to this Society had recd. £3, the remaining Copies he is willing to burn, or dispose of any way, as the Society shall think fit.

2. Mr. Downing attending, he was Call'd in, and ask'd divers Questions touching his Printing the said Book : He own'd that upon the first notice he had that this Treatise was likely to give a Disgust, he cancel'd the Title-Page which had his name to it, and Printed another wherein it was omitted : that The Translater of it (one Mr. Keith) had promis'd to indemnify him as to the Charges, in case it should not sell : that he had deliver'd 60 Copies to him ; and there-

fore could not promise that another person should not reprint it elsewhere. Whereupon, the Society Agreed (after several cautions given him) to meddle no farther about it.

3. S[r] John Philipp's Moved the Society to consider if a Quarterly-Meeting of all the Members of this Society might not be held, where they might dine together, in Order to the promoting a more intimate acquaintance with one another

4. Order'd that a Committee be appointed to consider of the Time and Place of such Meetings, and of the Regulation of them; and that S[r] John Philipps, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Shute, or any three of them be that Committee, and they to meet this night at 8 a clock.

5. Mr. Brewster acquainted the Society that Mr. Nelson ha's lately publish'd a Book entituled A Companion for the Festivals and Fasts of the Church of England, and that in the Preface to it, he had made very honorable mention of the Religious Societies,[1] and Vindicated them from the Objections made against them: And the Book being produced, the Paragraphs relating thereunto were Read, whereupon

6. Resolved that the Hearty Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Nelson for the Composing and Printing his said Excellent Treatise, and particularly for what was now Read, and that S[r] John Philipps and Mr. Brewster be desired to acquaint him with the same.

7. Mr. Masson acquainted the Society, that Mr. Osterwald had written to him, that the Parcell of his Catechism's which he sent to the Society, was taken and suppress'd by the Emperors Commissioners for the Receipt of his Custom's, on the Borders of Switzerland, and that he would gladly receive a few Copies of the Translations from hence.

8. Resolved that a quarter of a hundred of the Translations of Mr. Osterwalds Catechism be transmitted to him, whereof 5 to be bound in Calf, another in Turkey Leather, the Rest in sheets (since Mr. Masson says twill be more convenient so) at the Charge of this Society.

9. Mr. Masson also acquainted the Society, That the Society of Divines of Neuf-chatel, had finished their New Liturgy for the whole year, after the Model of the Service of the Church of England; that it ha's been approv'd by the Government there; and actually begun to be Celebrated in the publick and Ordinary manner there, as he supposes, in the Month of October last.

10. S[r] John Philipps Reported from the Committee who were appointed to meet at Squire's Coffee-house,[2] that they had met accordingly, and waited on the Lord B[p] of Chichester, where two Representations against the Play-houses (the one written by Mr. Melmoth, the other by Mr. Nelson) were Produced, and with some Amendments

[1] See pp. xv., xvi., and xvii. of the edition now on the S.P.C.K. Catalogue.

[2] On the west side of Gray's-inn gate. Some of the *Spectators* are dated from there (Cassell's "Old and New London").

Agreed to. That one of them is delivered to the Lord A. B^p of Canterbury, the other sent enclosed in a Letter of S^r Humfrey Mackworth's to the A. B^p of York (he having before been applied to by Mr. Nelson, and desiring it to be sent him, and promising to lay it before y^e Queen), and that Mr. Comyns will undertake to send or Present a Copie of that drawn up by Mr. Melmoth to the Lord B^p of London, as soon as he can conveniently. And both the said Representations being Read,

11. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Nelson, and the other Gentlemen of this Committee, for the trouble given them upon this Occasion.

12. Order'd that the Treasurer do reimburse the said Gentlemen the charges they have been at in this Affair.

13. Resolv'd that it be a Standing Order of this Society, that what Charges any Member or Members of this Society shal be at in Promoting the Designs or Carrying on the Business of this Society, by the Directions thereof; shall be reimbursed by the Society.

14. Order'd that the Secretary do for the future add this Resolution to the Printed Paper of the Standing Orders and Resolutions of this Society.

15. Agreed that the Printing of the 2 Paragraph's out of A. B^p Tillotson's Sermon, about Plays, be deferr'd till the Society have an Answer from the A^ps and B^p of London, touching the Representations layd before them.

Thursday, 30 December, 1703.

Present: Mr. Shute, Coll. Colchester, S^r John Philipps, S^r Edmund Turner, Mr. Serj^t Hooke, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Dr. Slare.

Coll. Colchester in the Chair.

1. Agreed that a Committee be Appointed to Inspect the Printed Account of the Workhouse at Bristol, and the other Accounts of the same nature; in Order to the drawing up a New Paper, from them all;

2. Agreed that Mr. Comyns, Mr. Serj^t Hooke, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, Coll. Colchester, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, or any three of them be this Committee, and that they meet at Mr. Brewster's Chambers, on Wednesday next by 3 a clock.

3. The Secretary producing a dozen Copies of the Report delivered in from the Committee appointed to manage the Affair concerning the Houses offer'd to this Society by Mr. Yeate's Friend, they were distributed or order'd to be sent to the absent Members who are Gentlemen of the Long Robe; And the Society Agreed to desire the same Committee, with Mr. Melmoth, to meet again at Mr. Brewster's on Wednesday next at 3 a clock, and set a Selling Price upon the Houses.

4. Mr. Edwards delivered in the Original Draught of Settlement of

the Library at Bedford (having taken a Copie of it), and Mr. Carter was order'd to Transmit it to Mr. Frank, by the first Opportunity.

5. Mr. Edwards Moving the Society to revise the Agents Printed Paper of Schools, before the next Publication of it, the Society referr'd it to Mr. Shute and Himself; and that they would bring in their Amendments at their Leasure.

6. Agreed that S[r] Humfrey Mackworth be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

7. S[r] John Philipps Reported from the Committee appointed to consider about a Quarterly-Meeting of the Residing Members of this Society, in Order to promote a more Intimate Acquaintance with one another, that the Committee was of Opinion, that such a Quarterly Meeting would answer the end propos'd: That the Meeting might be held conveniently at Mr. Ibbot's house in Howard-street: That the Charge of each Meeting should not exceed Half a Crown a Head; and that the first Meeting might be upon this day fortnight. The Society Agreed to this Report, except the last particular; which they Order'd to be farther Consider'd at next Meeting.

8. A Motion being made to the Society for giving one of Mr. Nelson's Companion for the Festivals and Fasts, &c., to each of the Religious Societies in this City:

9. Resolved that this be taken into consideration at next Meeting.

10. Order'd that the Secretary do bring a short Account of it, to the next Meeting

11. Agreed that Mr. Stubs be desired to draw up the Quere to be added to the Citation out of A. B. Tillotson's Sermon about Plays.

12. Order'd that two of Mr. Nelson's books, well bound in Calf, be bought and sent to Mr. Ostervald with the Translations of his Catechism.

13. Dr. Slare producing two Papers or Certificates concerning the real Blindness of Francis Talbot the soldier formerly mentioned,

14. Agreed that an Account of the whole Matter be drawn up, in order to be communicated to the World in Print, which upon the Societies Desire, Mr. Stubs undertook to do.

15. Order'd that the Secretary write to the Lords the B[ps] who are Members of this Society, to the Lord Guilford, to S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Comyns, Mr. Nelson, and Dr. Bray, to apply to the Governor of Chelsea College, that the said Francis Talbot may be received into the College, and so remain a Standing Instance of Almighty Gods Just Judgement in the Infliction of so terrible a Punishment upon him.

Thursday, 6 January, 1703-4.

St. Dunstan's Vestry.

Present: the Lord B^p of Chester, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Shute, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Chamberlayne, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Whiston and Mr. Newman Correspondents, Mr. Brewster, Dr. Slare, Dr. Bray, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Stubs, S^r Humfrey Mackworth.

S^r John Philipps in the Chair, being deputed by S^r H. Mackworth.

1. A Debate arising about the subject of Play-houses, a Paper written against them, was deliver'd in by Dr. Bray, the Copie of which he said, he thought might be in the Society; and the Paper being read,

2. Agreed that it be revis'd this night, by a Committee, in Order to be printed: and that Dr Bray, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Whiston, Mr. Shute, S^r John Philipps, Mr. Melmoth, or any two of them be this Committee, and they to adjust the number to be Printed, and Order it to the Press.

3. Order'd that 200 Copies of Mr. Colliers Letter or Disswasive from Play-houses be bought, and brought to the next Meeting.

4. Mr. Meller and Mr. Jenner were Approv'd, as Residing Members, and Mr. Melmoth to desire their Attendance.

5. Mr. Stubs acquainted the Society that W^m Carter the Societies Messenger, being also Messenger to the Corporation-Society, and finding the business of both Societies to interfere, so that he was not able to serve both Societies as he ought, did desire to be discharged. And he being call'd in, said the same: Whereupon the Society left it to Mr. Treasurer to find out a new Messenger, upon the same Salary of £10 p ann.

6. Mr. Whiston reported the Progress of the Charity Schools set up in Cambridge, and promising a full account of the same in Writing upon his Return thither: The Society gave him their Thanks, for his great Zeal and Pains in that Affair.

7. Mr. Stubs acquainted the Society that (in pursuance of a request made to him by the Society) he had moved the Society of the London-Divines at their Monthly Meeting in Sion-College to preach against the Play-houses upon the next Fast-day, and that they have promis'd so to do: Whereupon the Society return'd him their hearty Thanks for the same.

8. Agreed that the Treasurer do pay Mr. Carter £5 as a gratuity from the Society, when he shall have instructed the new Messenger, in the method of collecting the Subscriptions, &c.

9. Mr. Stubs told the Society, that his Clerk and Sexton, who had part of the Societies allowance to his Servants, were very thankful for the same.

10. Agreed that the first Quarterly Meeting be held on Thursday

the 27th Instant, and that the Secretary do notify it to the Residing Members.

11. Dr. Slare moving the Society to allow some subsistence to Francis Talbot, in case he should be turn'd out of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, before he can be admitted into Chelsea College, the Society Agreed to it.

Thursday, 13 January, 1703-4.

St. Dunstan's Quest-house.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, S^{r} Edmund Turner, Mr. Melmoth, Dr. Slare, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Coll. Colchester, S^{r} John Philipps, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hoare.

Mr. Melmoth in the Chair, S^{r} H. Mackworth being absent.

1. Mr. Melmoth Reported from the Committee who were appointed to put a Selling Price upon the Houses Given to the Society by Mr. Yeates Friend : that they had met, and taken the Matter into Consideration ; and that Mr. Serj^{t} Hook told them, that a Friend of His, did once proffer 8 years Purchase for them, but afterwards fell to 7 years Purchase :

2. Ordered that the Secretary do wait on Mr. Serj^{t} Hook, and acquaint him that the Society is willing to let his Friend have them at his last Offer of 7 years purchase, if he cannot get more.

3. Agreed that the Committee Appointed to Inspect the Bristol Account, &c. do meet here this day sennight, by 3 a clock, upon the same Affair.

4. The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

5. Mr. Skate Reported that £18 per ann. is Subscribed towards the Charity-School at Spittle-fields.

6. Mr. Michel Reported that there ha's been lately Collected above £70 at St. Margaret's Church in Westminster, for the Grey-Coat-Hospital ; and as much at St. James's Church for the School in that Parish ; and almost £90 at St. Annes Church for the School there : and about £40 at the New Chapel for the Charity-School at Petty-France.

The Minute about furnishing the Religious Societies with Mr. Nelson's Companion for the Festivals and Fasts, being taken into Consideration

Agreed that the Treasurer do deliver a Copie to the Stewards of each of the Religious Societies, at their next Quarterly Meeting.

Dr. Slare deliver'd in a Paper, certifying that Francis Talbot doe's now begin to recover his sight, after a Total Blindness, and could this day discern his (the D^{rs}) Face and Eies, but doubts as before whether he became quite blind. Whereupon the Society agreed to respite their Proceedings about him.

S^{r} John Philipps desiring some of the Societies Books and Papers,

he being about to return into Wales: the Treasurer was Order'd to furnish him.

Some of the Papers about Play-houses which was Order'd to the Press last week, being laid before the Society,

Order'd that one of these Papers, and one of Mr. Colliers Letters be put into the New Packet.

Order'd that half a dozen of the former and one of the latter, be sent to each of the Lay Members, and a dozen to each of the Divines of the Society.

Order'd that a Letter be written to them certifying them, where they may have more Gratis, if wanted.

S[r] John Philipps producing a Printed Paper entituled a Short Account of the Impiety and Immorality of the Stage; 500 of them were Order'd to be bought, and sent with the others, six to the Lay Gentlemen and twelve to the Divines of this Society.

Order'd that the Messenger do disperse 200 of the Letters to a Lady and some of the Short Accounts at 100 of the Principal Coffee-houses.[1]

Thursday, 20 January, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Edwards, S[r] Edm. Turner, Mr. Stubs, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Lloyd, S[r] Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Mills a Correspondent.

Mr. Stubs in the Chair, S[r] Hum. Mackworth being absent.

Mr. Shute presented John Carter, son of W[m] Carter, to the Society as their new Messenger, who was approved by the Society.

Order'd that the New Packet (with 6 of the Letters to a Lady and as many of the Representations of the Impieties of the Stage, with 2 of Mr. Collier's Dissuasives) be sent to each of the Correspondents, as soon as may be.

Agreed that Mr. Treasurer may buy or Print as many of these Papers as he shall find necessary for this purpose.

The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

Mr. Mitchel Reported the present state of the School at Brentford, where the Schoolmaster having subsisted upon private Allowances hitherto, was run £5 in debt, whereupon, the Society promised to ensure this £5 to be paid, after some time, when they shall call for it.

Agreed that the Quarterly Meeting be defer'd to this day Fortnight.

Mr. Brewster Reported from Mr. A. D. Kennett, that the L[d] B[p] of Sarum and his Lady have settled £10 per ann. upon the Charity-School at Clerkenwell.

Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be Return'd to both the Lords the Archbishops and the L[d] B[p] of London for their laying the

[1] Coffee-houses were established about 1652. Suppressed by proclamation 1675; but the order was revoked on petition of the traders in 1676.

Representations of this Society against the Playhouses before her Majesty, and that S^r Hum. Mackworth Mr. Comyns, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Bulstrode be desired to Attend them with the same.

A Letter was Read from Mr. Ludolf at Copenhagen.

Thursday, 27 January, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. More and Mr. Sturmy Correspondents, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Mellor, Dr. Bray, Mr. Hoare, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Stubs, the L^d B^p of Worcester, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Newman a Correspondent.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair, S^r Humfrey Mackworth being absent.

Mr. Shute Reported that Mr. Serj^t Hooke's Client was now unwilling to buy the houses given to this Society by Mr. Yeates Friend: whereupon Mr. Melmoth was desired to treat with a Client of his, who had made some offers about them.

Order'd that the Committee appointed to inspect the Bristoll Account, do meet here this day Fortnight by 3 a clock upon the same affair.

Order'd that two of the New Packets and one of the Common Packets be transmitted to Mr. Gibson of Welbourne.

A Letter was Read from Dr. Chetwood to Mr. Chamberlayne, wherein he desires that two Tracts (the one larger and more accurate, the other smaller and more popular) may be written against Gameing.

Agreed that Dr. Chetwood be a Corresponding Member of this Society, and that with the Thanks of this Society for his Letter, he be desired to draw up the said Treatises.

Mr. Melmoth acquainting the Society that the 9th Occasional Paper about the Danger of going to Plays, is out of Print, and that the Bookseller is willing to Reprint it, in case he can be assured that 100 Copies will be taken off his hands: the Society agreed to take off that number, when it shall be Reprinted.

Order'd that at the next Meeting a Committee be appointed to inspect the List of Correspondents, in order to revive and extend the Correspondence.

The Agents for Schools being call'd in,

Mr. Skate Reported that the Charity-School at Spittle-Fields is about to be Open'd, £20 per ann. being Subscribed thereto; and he having Order'd some Forms and other Necessaries to be bought for it, to £40 value, he mov'd the Society to allow it.

The Agents moving the Society for some of the Letters to a Lady, against the Play-houses, the Treasurer was order'd to furnish them; and they were invited to the Societies Dinner on Thursday next.

The Society taking into Consideration the time and Manner of

their Dinner on this day Sennight, Agreed that it should be had at 3 a clock, that the absent Members should be summon'd to it, and that Mr. Brewster, Mr. Hoare, and Mr. Melmoth, should be Stewards.

A Letter was Read from Mr. Love, with an inclosed Paper or Proposal for the Erection of Charity Schools at Yarmouth. (Mr. Shute has it.)

A Letter was Read from Mr. Hales dated from Berlin 11th Decb. 1703, to Mr. Chamberlayne. (The B^p of Worcester ha's it.)

Thursday, February 3, 1703-4.

Mr. Ibbott's house.

Present: S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Brewster, S^r Edmund Turner, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Stubs, Coll. Colchester, Dr. Bray, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Meller, Dr. Slare, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Serj^t Hooke, Mr. Jenner, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Gerard, Dr. Mapletoft, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Trymmer, S^r W^m Hustler, the L^d B^p of Chester, Mr. Dean of Chichester, the L^d B^p of Chichester, Mr. Cotton, the L^d Guilford, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Coutris, Mr. Wickes, Mr. More, Mr. Sturmy and Mr. Newman Correspondents, Mr. Michell and Mr. Skate the Agents, the L^b B^p of Worcester, S^r George Wheeler, Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Neville sent their money.

The Lord B^p of Chichester in the Chair.

Mr. Melmoth acquainted the Society, that one of their Members is willing to advance the Money which they are indebted in; on condition that he shall be reimbursed when the Society shall have sold the houses given by Mr. Yeates Friend.

Agreed that this Proposal be accepted; that Mr. Melmoth be desired to return him the Thanks of the Society for the same; and that the Treasurer do apprise him of the Particulars and receive the Money.

Resolv'd that this Gentleman be reimburs'd immediately after the sale of the said Houses, or sooner if it can be.

Resolved that it be a Standing Order of this Society, that (after this Debt is discharg'd) this Society will never ingage in any Act of Charity, unless the Money necessary for defraying it be already due to the Society.

Resolv'd that this Society will not Order any Money to be paid by the Treasurer, unless it be actually in his Hands.

S^r Edmund Turner laid before the Society a Copie of a Clause in the last Will of Josiah Bacon of London Merchant, deceas'd, dated 4th October 1703, whereby he Orders a sum not exceeding £700 for building a Charity-School in the Parish of St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey, and £150 per ann. to a Schoolmaster and Usher to teach a number of Poor Children (from 40 to 60) to Read English, Write, and

Cast Account: which being Read was Order'd to be Communicated to the Agents for Schools.

Mr. Daeth was Approv'd for a Residing Member, and Mr. Melmoth with Mr. Jenner to desire his Attendance.

Agreed that the L[d] B[p] of Chichester be desir'd to continue in the Chair during this Month.

Mr. Shute Reported from Dr. Manningham, that the Chaplain of the ship Ranelagh had Applyed to him for some of the Societies Books and Papers, which he would distribute amongst the Seamen therein: whereupon the Society Order'd the Treasurer to furnish him with a parcel, the value not exceeding 20 shillings.

A Letter was read from the Rev[d] Mr. Urmston Chaplain to the English Factory at Archangel, and dated the last of September 1703, to Mr. Stubs, acknowledging the Receipt of the Books sent thither by this Society, and desiring some more; which the Society Agreed to, and the Lord B[p] of Chichester was pleas'd to promise to send him 50 of his Catechisms. Mr. Urmston wrote also, that the Czar ha's lately erected Charity Schools, for the teaching of Poor Children, in all the Great Towns of his Dominions.

Mr. Stubs also Reported that he had distributed the New Testaments (allow'd by the Society) among the French Prisoners by the Tower, with good Effect; whereupon the Society desired him to distribute two New Testaments more amongst them.

The Secretary Reported that the Lord B[p] of Worcester had promis'd to show Mr. Hales's Letter Read at the last Meeting to Baron Spanheim, the K. of Prussia's Minister here, and prevail with him to recommend him to the King his Master.

Mr. Shute Reported that the Ch. School at Kilmersdon in Somersetshire goes on prosperously, there being 40 Children taught therein, whereof 32 are very good proficients.

Thursday, 10 February, 1703-4.

St. Dunstans Quest-house.

Present: the L[d] B[p] of Chichester, S[r] Edmund Turner, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Meller, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Cotton.

The L[d] B[p] of Chichester in the Chair.

Order'd that the Committee appointed to inspect the Bristoll Account, &c., do meet here this day Fortnight by 3 a clock, upon that Affair.

Order'd that this day sennight a Committee be Appointed to revise the List of Correspondents.

Dr. Slare acquainted the Society that Francis Talbot ha's now almost recover'd his former Sight again, and that he doe's Attend without, if the Society have any Questions to ask him.

Whereupon he being call'd in, the L^d B^p of Chichester asked him divers Questions, touching his former Life, and how he became Blind, &c. He owned the Theft, and his Imprecations upon it, which he believed did bring the Judgement of Blindness upon him ; his Lordship gave him good Advice, and exhorted him who was a Monument of the Almighties Mercy as well as his Justice, to refrain from ill Practises for the future lest a worse thing should come upon him. And Mr. Shute at his going away gave him about 15 or 16 shillings, which the Society rais'd among themselves for his Relief.

Thursday, 17 February, 1703-4.

Present: Lord Guilford, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare, Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair, the L^d B^p of Chichester being absent.

Mr. Skeat one of the Agents reports that there was a School opend in Spittlefields last Munday ; that there was £25 subscribed towards the same, and that there were 24 Girls in the s^d School.

Order'd that the Secretary do wait on Mr. Yeates and desire him to move his Friend that the Society may have leave to Receive the Rent of those Houses given by him, till a Chapman can be found to Purchase them.

Order'd that the great Benefaction of Mr. Bacon mention'd in the Minutes of the 7th Febr. be inserted in the new Acc^t of Charity Schools, and that the Secretary do hasten the Publishing of the said Acc^t.

Agreed that Mr. Urmston Chaplain to the English Factory at Archangel be a Corresponding Member of the Society. Order'd that Mr. Stubs do acquaint him with the same. Resolved that Mr. Urmston's letter to Mr. Stubs be read at the next Meeting.

Order'd that a Parcel of the Society's Books and Papers not exceeding the value of 10s. be deliver'd (upon the motion of Mr. Shute) to Mr. Charles Smith vicar of Ashelworth in Gloucestershire in order to be distributed among his Parishioners.

Agreed that the List of Correspondents be consider'd of at the next Meeting between the reading of the first and second day's Minutes.

Thursday, 24 Febr., 1703-4.

Present: the L^d B^p of Chichester, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Salmon a Correspondent, Dr. Slare, Mr. Andrews, Dr. Hutchinson a Correspondent, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Melmouth, Mr. Daeth.

L^d B^p of Chichester in the Chair.

Ordered that the Committee to whom the consideration of the Bristol Acc^{t} &c. was refer'd sitt this day fortnight.

Order'd that the Secretary do summon the same Gentlemen that were of that Committee to meet here at 3 a clock on this day fortnight.

Agreed that Mr. Francis Stevens Rector of Welburn in Lincolnshire be a Correspondent for that County, being propos'd by Mr. Edwards.

The consideration of the Minute relating to the List of Correspondents being resumed, Agreed that the Secretary do wait on the Lords the Bishops that are Members of this Society forthwith, and shew them the List of the present Correspondents and desire their Lordships to recommend proper Persons for those great Towns and Counties in their Dioceses where the Society has no Correspondence.

Order'd that the Secretary do prepare a List of all the Counties and chief Towns in England and Wales, leaving a blank for the names of the Correspondents, and do bring it to next Meeting in order to be printed for the use of the Members.

Agreed that the L^{d} B^{p} of Chichester be desired to keep the Chair for the ensuing Month.

The Treasurer reported that he had received the £50 advanced by Mr. Melmouth's Friend, &c.

Also that he had received a Benefaction of £1. 1s. 6d. from the Reverend Dr. Hutchinson.

Thursday, 2 March, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Bromfield, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Stubs in the Chair, the L^{d} B^{p} of Chichester being absent.

The Agents for Schools being called in,

Mr. Skate Reported that the Charity-School at Spittle-fields ha's now 30 Girls taught therein, and that the Subscriptions thereunto do amount to £28 per ann.

Mr. Shute acquainting the Society that Mr. Lloyd (before he went into the Countrey) desired some of their Books and Papers to distribute in his Parish,

Order'd that they do furnish him with a Parcell, the value not exceeding 30 shillings.

Coll. Colchester moving the Society for some of the Societies Books and Papers to distribute in 3 Charity-Schools in the Countrey, the Treasurer was Order'd to furnish him with a Parcel, the value not exceeding 20 shillings.

Mr. Nelson acquainted the Society, that he had recd. a letter from S^{r} John Philipps, wherein he propose's the Erection of a like Workhouse in the Liberty of Westminster, as ha's been Erected in the City of London, he being of opinion that the same Act of Parliament which impower'd the City of London to set up such a Workhouse, extend's also to the Liberty of Westminster ;

Agreed that Mr. Edwards be desired to inspect the Statutes concerning this Matter, and that he make his Report at next Meeting.

A Letter was Read from Mr. A. D. Chetwood, accepting the Correspondence.

Thursday, 9 March, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Stubs, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Jenner, the Secretary: who Adjourn'd to this day sennight.

Thursday, 16 March, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Stubs, Mr. Lewis a Correspondent, Coll. Colchester, Mr. Chamberlayne, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Meller, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Lovyband, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, S^r^ Ric. Bulkeley and Mr. Sturmy Correspondents.

Mr. Meller in the Chair, the L^d^ B^p^ of Chichester being absent.

The Committee appointed to inspect the Bristol Account, &c., not attending, Order'd that the same Gentlemen be again summon'd to meet here this day sennight, at three a clock, upon the same Affair.

The Secretary producing a double List of all the Great Towns in England and Wales,

Order'd that the Secretary do bring a Printed Specimen of it to the next Meeting.

The Secretary acquainting the Society that there is a likelyhood of obtayning £40 per annum, either to this Society, or to the Corporation for propagating the Gospell in Foreign Parts: 'Twas Order'd that Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Edwards, and the Secretary should meet at the Rainbow Coffee-house on Tuesday next at 5 a Clock, and go to the Parties concern'd, in Order to make a farther Report at next Meeting.

Order'd that the Messenger do follow the Secretaries Directions in all Matters relating to the Business of the Society.

Mr. Tanner the Chancellor of Norwich having written for a considerable Parcel of Books and Papers (to be paid for,) the Society Order'd 200 of the Sheets concerning the *Obligations to Shun Vice and Immorality* to be presented to him, there being near 2,000 of them in the Treasurer's hands, and none to be bought elsewhere.

The Secretary produced a letter from Mr. Yate, who say's that his Friend is desirous to make an Assignment to the Society of the 6 Houses in Gloucester Court, upon their discharging him of his Covenants, in order to the Societies receiving the Rents of the Houses as soon as they please.

Order'd that the farther Consideration of this Matter be adjourn'd to the next Meeting, and that the Secretary do summon the Absent Members to attend.

Mr. Palmer of Chelsea was approv'd as a Residing Member, and Mr. Meller to desire his Attendance.

The Secretary producing the Printed Paper of Schools as Amended according to Order, and also the Additions to the List of Charity-Schools: they were deliver'd to Mr. Edwards for his farther consideration.

Thursday, 23 March, 1703-4.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Bulstrode, Dr. Slare, Mr. Andrews, the Secretary, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Sturmy a Correspondent, Mr. Trymmer, Mr. Grabe a Correspondent, Mr. Neville, Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Bulstrode in the Chair, the L^d^ B^p^ of Chichester being absent.

Mr. Edwards Reported that he had Inspected the Statutes mention'd in the Minutes of the 2d Instant, and that he found that they do extend to the Liberty of Westm^r^.

Agreed that Mr. Chamberlayne and Mr. Michel (one of the Agents for Schools) be desired to give the Society a List of such Persons names, as they suppose will be willing to be Commissioners for the Erection of a new Workhouse in or near Westm^r^.

Agreed that Mr. Jenner be desired to Inspect the Accounts of the Work-houses set up at Bristol and other places, and that he do make an Abstract of all for the perusal of the Society as soon as he can conveniently.

The Secretary made a farther Report concerning the £40 per ann. (being a Farm called Grave's Farm in Great Gransden, in Huntingdonshire) left to Charitable uses by the Rev. Mr. Barnabas Oley deceas'd, and that by the Tenor of the Will it seem's most proper for the promoting the Designs of the Corporation Society for propagating he Gospel in Foreign Parts: Also that Mr. Rock of the Temple ha's he Will and all the other Writings in his hands, which he is willing o show to any that shall be sent to him for this purpose.

Agreed that Mr. Melmoth and Mr. Edwards be desired to go to Mr. Rock, and inspect the said Writings, in order to the making a farther Report at next Meeting.

The Agents for Schools being called in,

Mr. Gardiner Reported that they had been at Ware, to receive the Inhabitants Answer to their Proposal of Erecting a Charity School there, upon the houses design'd to be given thereunto by Mr. Neale (which are of £18 a year value) but that the Parishioners did not think fit to comply with it.

Also that the Charity given to St. Sepulchres Parish by Mr. Reeve deceas'd, is now settled, in favour of the Parish.

Agreed, that Dr. Slare be desir'd to move Mr. Neal, to give the above-mention'd houses to this Society.

The Secretary produced a Printed Specimen of the double List of the Great Towns, &c., in England and Wales. 'Twas order'd to be farther consider'd when Coll. Colchester is present.

Mr. Shute acquainted the Society that one Mr. Aldrich had been

with him about buying the houses given by Mr. Yate's friend, and that in the name of a friend he offers £60 for them, Mr. Shute was desired to treat with him, and to see how much more can be gotten for them ; and the Secretary was Order'd to certify Mr. Yeate that the Society is about the sale of them, and hope soon to indemnifie his Friend, and will apply the money accrueing thereby according to his pious Intention. And that his pleasure is desir'd to be known, whether an Advertisement concerning them may be inserted into the News Papers.

The Secretary acquainting the Society that he ha's many Letters and Papers to read ;

Order'd that they be read at next Meeting.

Thursday, 30 March, 1704.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Melmoth.

Mr. Edwards in the Chair, the L^d^ B^p^ of Chichester being absent.

1. Mr. Treasurer acquainting the Society that there is a want of some of Dr. Bray's Baptismal Covenants ; he was Order'd to buy an hundred of them.

2. Mr. Stubs moving the Society for some of their Papers to be dispers'd by the Ministers of Whitford, Ingostow, &c., near Chelmsford in Essex : the Treasurer was Order'd to furnish him with 3 Packets, their value, in all, not exceeding 15 shillings.

3. Mr. Stubs shewing the great Inconvenience happening to divers Members, who coming at the usual hour, have tarried very long before there was a Quorum, to enter upon the Business of the Society,

4. Agreed that if there be not a Quorum by five a clock, there shall be no business done for that time.

5. Resolved that this be a Standing Order of the Society.

Mr. Stubs reported that he ha's visited Mr. Rock, that he ha's seen the Will of Mr. Oley, and that Mr. Rock ha's desired him to mention the Affair to the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, he desiring that the Estate may be Vested in them forthwith.

Mr. Edwards related that he ha's a friend who will give £70 for the houses given to this Society by Mr. Yeate's friend.

A Letter was Read from Mr. Hales at Berlin, dated 23 Febr. 1703-4, to Mr. Chamberlayne wherein he certifies his dispersing the Soldier's Monitor amongst the Soldiers in Garrison there ; his procuring it to be recommended to the K. of Prussia, who is likely to cause it to be distributed amongst all his Soldiers : his obtaining a promise of the Prince of Saxe-Gotha to recommend it to the K. of Sueden ; and of some Moscovite Gentlemen to do the same with the Czar.

Mr. Hales also sent over a little Tract entituled *Essais de quelques Exercises de Devotion*, drawn up by Monsieur Jaquelot, a French Man, which if approv'd by our English Divines, the K. of Prussia will

introduce it into his own Chappel, and all the Reformed Churches throughout his Dominions.

Agreed that Dr. Manningham be desired to peruse the said Treatise, and that he give his Opinion of it at next Meeting.

Mr. Hales also mention'd his sending over a Transcript of the Instructions to be observ'd by the Preceptors to the Czar's son, and desired the Names of some good Authors to recommend to him, which was order'd to be consider'd at next Meeting.

The Translation also of an Account drawn up by Mons^r Wrackowitz a Lithuanian and sent by Mr. Hales, was read, concerning the deplorable Estate of the Protestant Religion in Lithuania and Samogilia.

A Translation of a Letter from Mr. Ostervald at Neufchâtel dated 4 Febr., 1714 to Mr. Masson was Read, giving an Account of the Liturgy for the whole Year, lately established there, and which he sent therewith, and was produced ;

Order'd that the Secretary do translate it.

The Secretary saying that he ha's many other Letters, they were refer'd to the next Meeting.

Agreed that Mr. Edwards be Chairman for the ensuing Month.

Thursday, 6 April, 1704.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Neville, the Secretary, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Stubs, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Newman a Correspondent.

Mr. Hoare in the Chair, Mr. Edwards being absent.

1. Agreed that Mr. Michel be putt in Mind of the List of Names for Commissioners to the intended Workhouse in or near Westminster.

2. Agreed that Dr. Slare be put in mind of moving Mr. Neale to give his houses in Ware to this Society.

3. The Secretary related that he had seen Mr. Yate, who having consulted his Friend, seem'd to be of Opinion that the houses in Gloucester Court are worth much more than ha's been offer'd for them ; that he is unwilling that any Advertisement should be printed about them ; and that he agree's that this Society may receive the Rents, as soon as they are vested in Trustees, whereby he may be indemnified as to his Covenants.

4. Order'd that at a full Meeting it be Consider'd how to vest these houses in some of the Members of this Society.

5. Agreed that the Treatise refer'd to Dr. Manningham at last Meeting, be put into the Hands of his Grace the Arch-B^p of Canterbury, together with Mr. Hales's last Letter ; and that Mr. Chamberlayne be desired to present them.

6. Order'd that the Secretary do desire Mr. Grabe to recommend

Mr. Hales to his Brother who is Secretary of State to the K. of Prussia.

7. Agreed that Mr. Neville be desired to speak to the B^p of Salisbury to recommend Mr. Hales to Baron Spanheim, that thus he may be made known to the K. of Prussia.

8. A Letter was Read from Mr. Whiston giving an Account of their setting up Charity Schools in Cambridge, together with an Abridgement of their Orders, and a Copy of the Agreement for their Erection. He transmitted also their Orders at large, and their new Form of Prayer, both Printed : all which were refer'd to Mr. Stubs, and he was desired to fit them for the Press, in such Form as he shall think fit.

9. Agreed that after this Meeting is over, the Society be Adjourn'd to this day fortnight.

10. Mr. Edwards, who could not attend, sent a Letter, together with a Paper, about the Charity Schools, submitting it to the correction of the Society before it be Printed : and an Amendment being made, 'twas Order'd to be Printed, and Mr. Treasurer to take care of the Impression.

11. The Agents for Schools being called in,

12. Mr. Gardiner Reported from Dr. Slare, that Mr. Neale is willing to make a Conveyance of his houses in Ware to this Society, towards carrying on their pious designs, when they please.

13. Mr. Mitchell related that they find, at present, several obstacles against the Erection of an Incorporated Work-house in Westminster.

14. 'Twas propos'd that there should be a procession of the Poor Children in Whitson-week, on Monday and Tuesday ; the Secretary was Order'd to consult Dr. Manningham about it, and to Report his Opinion at next Meeting.

15. A Letter was read from Mr. Disney of Lincoln, giving an account of the Erection of two Charity Schools there, their hopes of a third ; and that the Dean and Chapter will Erect a fourth.

16. A Letter was read from Mr. Grave of Lewes, owning the Receipt of 6 of the new Packets.

17. S^r Humfrey Mackworth propos'd again the Erecting of Libraries in Wales, and Mr. Stubs undertook to draw up proposals for that End.

18. The Secretary saying that many other Letters remain to be read, they were refer'd to the next Meeting.

Thursday, 20 April, 1704.

Present: S^r Edmund Turner, Dr. Manningham, Mr. Shute, Mr. Meller, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Hoar, S^r Humfrey Mackworth, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Grabe and Mr. D'effray Correspondents, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Bromfield, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Edwards in the Chair.

Dr. Manningham Reported that he ha's perused the Treatise

refer'd to him the 30th of March, and that he find's it to be very well drawn up ; but that 'tis much more proper for Private Families, or our Religious Societies, than to be read in Churches, there being nothing Liturgical in it.

The Minute about recommending some good Books to the Preceptors of the Czars Son, being taken into Consideration, the Society pitch'd upon The Whole Duty of Man, and Dr. Henry More's Ethicks, till they consider farther.

S^r^ Humfrey Mackworth layd before the Society some Clauses for Encorporating of the Benefactors to Charity-Schools : to be added to the Printed Bill for the better Employment and Settlement of the Poor, that thus it may be consider'd against the next Session of Parliament, and by this means be included in the said Bill : which was Read and some Amendments was made thereunto. And the Thanks of the Society was given him by Mr. Chairman.

Thursday, 27 April, 1704.

Present: Dr. Manningham, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Shute, Mr. Stubs, Mr. D'effray and Mr. Grabe Correspondents, the Secretary : Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Neville, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Slare.

Mr. Edwards in the Chair.

1. Agreed that Mr. Edwards be desired to draw up an Instrument for Vesting the houses given by Mr. Yeate's friend, in some of the Members of this Society.

2. Mr. Chamberlayne reported that he had attended his Grace the A. B. of Canterbury, with the Printed Treatise mention'd in the Minutes of the 6th Instant, and Mr. Hales's last Letter ; and that his Grace bad him let Mr. Hales and this Society know, that he is in hopes that there will be received in Prussia, another Liturgy or Service, drawn up nearer to that of the Church of England than that of Mons^r^ Jacquelot.

3. Order'd that Mr. Downing do not for the future, publish any Paper which he receive's from this Society to Print but by the directions thereof.

4. Dr. Manningham consented to the meeting of the Poor Children in his Church in Whitson-week, tho' he shall then be at Windsor ; and the Agents are thereby at liberty to proceed therein as they shall think fit.

Mr. Stubs presented his Proposal for the Erection of Lending Libraries in Wales, to which some Amendments being made, they were Order'd to be farther Consider'd.

The Chaplain of the ship Ranelagh (mention'd in the Minutes of the 3rd of February) desiring (by Dr. Manningham) another parcel of the Societies Books and Papers, the former having done much good : The Treasurer was Order'd to send him a parcel, the value not exceeding 10 shillings.

S[r] John Philipps, writing to Mr. Shute for a parcel of the Societies Books and Papers, Mr. Treasurer was Order'd to send him a parcel whose value shall not exceed ten shllings.

Mr. Treasurer moving that his Accounts may be Audited,

Agreed that Mr. Edwards, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hoar, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Hodges, and Dr. Slare, with Mr. Treasurer, or any 3 of them, be desired to Audit the same, this day sennight, by 3 a clock.

The Secretary produc'd his Translatlon of the Service establish'd in the Church of Neufchâtel, which was refer'd to Mr. Nelson's perusal.

Mr. D'effray related the Case of Joseph Jonas the Jewish Proselyte, formerly mention'd, which was Order'd to be farther consider'd, in order to the preparing an account of him, that then the Society may know whether he be a proper Object of their Charity.

Agreed that Mr. Nelson be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

The Agents for Schools being call'd in

Mr. Skate Reported that within about a fortnight, there ha's been bequeathed and given to White-Chapel School the sum of £70.

Mr. Mitchel Reported also, that within the same time, a Gentleman ha's left £100 to the Workhouse in St. Margaret's Westminster.

Mr. Skate also related, that a School is about to be set up at St. Mary Overeies.

Mr. Gardiner Reported likewise, that a Charity-School is now Open'd at St. Anne's, Westm[r], for 30 Girls: that there's now Subscribed £43. 9s. per ann., and that £48 was collected the last Sunday at the Church doors: and that there ha's been given to it besides, 22 pounds.

Thursday, 4 May, 1704.

Present: S[r] Edmund Turner, Dr. Mapletoft, Dr. Slare, Mr. Shute, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bromfield, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Brewster.

Dr. Slare in the Chair, being deputed by Mr. Nelson.

1. Mr. Hodges Reported from the Committee appointed to inspect the Treasurer's Accompts that they had Audited the same accordingly, and found that now there doe's remain in the Treasurer's hands, the sum of £09. 05s. 02½d. To which Report the Society Agreed.

2. A Letter was Read from Mr. Varlo of Portsmouth, who hinting at a want of the Paper concerning the Duty of Servants, the Society order'd a dozen to be sent to him. His Account also of his disposing the Societies Packets amongst the Commanders of Merchants Ships was produc'd, and the Secretary Order'd to Answer his Letter.

3. Order'd that Mr. Forbes Minister of Bicester in Oxfordshire, be a Corresponding Member for Oxfordshire, upon the Recommendation of Mr. Shute.

4. A Letter was Read from Mr. Salmon of Mepsal, containing

(amongst other things) a Project lately set on foot by him, viz^{t}., 12 Gentlemen and Clergy-men subscribe each 20 shillings for buying of such books as they agree upon, which are lent, at certain times, amongst one another: at the yeares end, the books are divided into 12 Lots, and so divided amongst them. Thus, each man reads £12 worth of books for 20s., and at the years end ha's the value of his money.

5. A Letter was read from Mr. Ludolf to Mr. Chamberlayne, dated from Copenhagen 2 April, 1704, who certifying that Mr. Michaelis the Lutheran Minister at Archangel ha's sometimes Opportunities of dispersing good books amongst the English there: the Society Order'd a parcel of books and Papers, not exceeding 10s. value, to be sent thither.

6. A Letter was Read from Mr. Banks of Hull, describing the Workhouses, Schools, and Hospitals there, 'twas referr'd to Mr. Edwards for the present, and Mr. Treasurer was desired to inspect his books to know whether any of the Sea-packets were sent to him; and to send him a fitting parcell in case none, or but few are allready sent.

7. Letters were read from Mr. Springate of Lewes, Mr. Olyffe of Dunton, and Mr. Cooke of Wittenham, all accepting the Correspondence.

8. A Letter was Read from Mr. Bedford of Bristol, owning the receipt of 7 of the Societies last Packetts.

9. Another from Mr. Grave of Lewes owning the Receipt of 6 of the like Packets.

10. The Society taking into Consideration the intended Gift of Mr. Neale, Mr. Bulstrode was desired to draw up a Conveiance of the formerly mention'd houses, vesting them in Dr. Slare, Mr. Bulstrode, Mr. Melmoth, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Bromfield, and Mr. Hodges, in Trust, for this Society.

11. Order'd that the Secretary do attend the Dean of Lincoln, and in the Name of this Society, desire him to preach at St. Andrews Church Holbourn in Whitson week, at the Meeting of all the Poor Children.

12. The Agents being call'd in,

13. Mr. Mitchell Reported that a Gentlewoman did lately bring in £20 as a gift to the Workhouse in St. Margarets Westm^{r}.

Many other Letters remaining to be read, they were refer'd to the next Meeting.

Thursday, May 11, 1704.

Present: S^{r} Edmund Turner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Stubs, Mr. Shute, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Bradley and Mr. Sturmy Correspondents.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

Order'd, That Mr. Edwards do dispatch the Instrument committed to his care about Mr. Yeate's Friends houses.

The Proposals for Lending Librarys in Wales being read, and approved, Mr. Stubs is desired to perfect it with an addition of y^e^ Trustees names.

Mr. Stubs desiring a parcel of y^e^ Societys Papers for the Royal Anne now under his care, ordered that a sum not exceeding 20s. be given him for that purpose.

A Letter from Mr. Boughton of Launceston complaining that he had not recd. a Parcel; another from Mr. Joseph Margate of Kempton accepting y^e^ Correspondence.

Several other Letters were referred till next Meeting.

Thursday, 18 May, 1704.

Present: Mr. Nelson, Mr. Shute, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Palmer, the Secretary, Mr. Chamberlayne.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

Agreed that Mr. Bulstrode be put in mind of the Conveyance of Mr. Neales Houses.

A Letter was read from Mr. Fenwick of Hallanton, concerning the £4 which he gives to the Society as a benefaction for 2 years: this money the Secretary having received, paid in to the Treasurer, who was desired to certifie Mr. Fenwick of it.

Letters were Read from Mr. Tottie of Eccleshal, Mr. Adamson of Burton, Mr. Turner of Stamford, Mr. Johns of Stroud, Mr. Smyth of Gainsborough, Mr. Allen of Stoke, Mr. Mapletoft of Huntingdon, Mr. Carte of Leicester, Mr. Smith of Paxton, and Mr. Wesley of Epworth, who all with Mr. Fenwick abovementioned, did own the Receipt of the Societies last Packet, and promis'd to promote the Erection of Libraries in the High-lands of Scotland as far as they could.

A Letter was read from Mr. Lewis of Ackryse.

Thursday, 25 May, 1704.

Present: Mr. Shute, Mr. Kirkwood a Correspondent, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Hoare, the Secretary: the Dean of Lincoln, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Springate a Correspondent, S^r^ Edmund Turner.

Mr. Nelson in the Chair.

1. Mr. Edwards related that he now having gotten the Lease of Mr. Yeate's Friends houses, he shall soon finish the Instrument desired of him.
2. Agreed that Mr. Stubs be put in mind of perfecting the Proposals for Erecting Lending Libraries in Wales.
3. Mr. Dean of Lincoln certified the Society that he is not sure of being in Town at the Time when the Society desires him to Preach in St. Andrew's Church: but that if he is in Town, he will Preach there.
4. Agreed that Mr. Hoare be Chairman for the Month ensuing.

5. Mr. Alex. Torriano was Approv'd for a Residing Member, and Mr. Shute promis'd to desire his Attendance.

6. Letters were read from Mr. Bynns of Stafford, and Mr. A. D. Entwistle owning the Receipt of the Societies last Packets. And some objections being made against the Design of Erecting Libraries in the High-lands of Scotland; Mr. Kirkwood produced Answers to them in writing, which gave satisfaction to the Society.

7. A Letter was Read from Mr. Thomlinson of New-Castle-upon-Tine.

8. The Agents for Schools being called in, they propos'd to the Society that the Marshall's Men might be hired to go before the Poor Children in their Procession to St. Andrews Church, in order to keep off Carts, &c., which the Society agreed to.

Thursday, 1 June, 1704.

Present: S^r^ Edmund Turner, Mr. Chamberlayne, Mr. Shute, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Newman a Correspondent, the Secretary.

Mr. Edwards in the Chair, being deputed by Mr. Hoare.

1. Order'd that the Secretary do desire Dr. Woodward of Poplar to preach next Thursday at St. Andrews Church, in case the Dean of Lincoln should be out of Town.

2. Dr. Slare related that there is a School set up in Kiderminster in Worcestershire for 32 Boys; and another begun in the same place for the same number of Boys: being both encouraged by Subscriptions from London.

3. Agreed that Mr. Treasurer do buy Paper for Printing 3,000 of the New Accounts of Schools.

4. The Agents for Schools being called in, Mr. Skate shewed a Letter from Reading in Berkshire, certifying that a Charity-school is sett up there for 30 boys, about £20 per ann. being Subscribed thereunto.

APPENDIX.

THE ABSTRACTS
OF
ALL THE CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

1. Mr. Thomas Frank, of Cranfeild, Bedfordshire, Nov. 22, '99, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Proposes to this Society an addition to be made to their first Circular Letter.

2. Mr. Arthur Bedford, of Bristol, Nov. 27, '99, to Mr. Shute, Signifies that some Lay Societies for Reformation are erecting there. That the Clergy about three months since began a Monthly Meeting, but discontinued it, and that he had some hopes of reviving it.

3. Mr. Cor. Yeate, A.D., of Marlborough, Nov. 28, '99, from Marlborough to Mr. Schute, Signifies his approbation of the Design of Schools, as the great foundation of a general & lasting Reformation, & advises that some persons take a Weekly account of the Children's proficience. That the Children & Youth be duly Catechized. That Catecheticall Lectures be set up instead of Lecture Sermons, that the best Xtians in his own Parish are those whom he hath led from the Desk to the Altar. That 50 poor Children had been taught on Charity in his Parish, & that by y^e^ death of y^e^ Benefact^rs^ he has been forced to lay down y^e^ School after above seven years continuance. Promises to contribute twenty Shillings yearly during life to Dr. Bray's Design. Wishes every Parish Cch. in England were furnished with Dr. Comber's Folio.[1]

4. Mr. Arnold Bowen, of Pembroke, Nov. 29, '99, to S^r^ John Philipps, Saith, the Clergy are zealous to promote Reformation, & intend to unite very speedily. That the Gentry have begun to Subscribe towards y^e^ Design of Schools.

5. Mr. John Lewis, of Ackryse, Kent, Nov. 30, '99, to Mr. Hodges, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

6. Mr. Will. Powell[2] [of Llangattock, Crickhowel, near Abergavenny], Dec. 5, '99, to Dr. Evans, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

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[1] "Companion to the Temple; or, a Help to Devotion in the use of the Common Prayer." By Thomas Comber, D.D., Dean of Durham (1691–1699). Reprinted in 7 vols. 8vo. 1841.

[2] The words within brackets added in another MS., and by a different hand from that in which the MS. is written.

7. Dr. Robert Wynne, of Gresford, in Denbighshire, Dec. 8, '99, to Dr. Evans, Saith, that he had Communicated y^e^ D^rs^ Letter to y^e^ Clergy at their meeting, who were well pleased with the Contents of it, their union being to the Same excellent purposes. That they had agreed on two particulars. 1. To bring an acco^t^ of what practice each Member observed in his Parish contrary to y^e^ Rubricks & Canons. 2. That each person make a Notitia of his Parish.

8. Mr. John Price, of Wrexham, in Flintshire, Dec. '99, to Dr. Evans, Saith, that he had communicated his Letter to y^e^ Society there who rejoiced at y^e^ contents of it.

9. Mr. John Williams, A Deacon of Swansey, Glamorganshire, Dec. 11, '99, to S^r^ Humphrey Mackworth, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

10. Mr. Robt. Wynne, Rector of Llanddemolen, near Bangor, in Carnarvonshire, Dec. 14, '99, to Dr. Evans, Saith, that y^e^ Bishop of Bangor had given a strict charge to his Clergy to meet frequently, & had given them directions to that purpose. That the Clergy of each Deanery unite together. That y^e^ Bishop is personally present at one or other of y^e^ Meetings, the Clergy throout y^e^ whole Diocess being associated.

11. Dr. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, Dec. 16, '99, from Beaumaris, Saith, That he has set up Schools for y^e^ Poorer Sort at his own charge, but of late their poverty is so great that they cannot allow themselves time to learn. That he has made it his business to recomend Dr. Bray's Design, but Taxes, want & poverty is the constant answer. That there are very few deluded people in those parts, & that Ignorance & unconcernedness are the reigning diseases.

12. Mr. Meyrick, of Carmarthen, Dec. 23, '99, to Dr. Evans, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

13. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton-on-y^e^-Hill, Derbyshire, Jan. 3, '99, to Mr. Hodges, accepts the Correspondence.

14. Mr. John Ellis, of Gonalston, Nottinghamsh. Jan. 8, '99, to Mr. Hodges, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

15. Mr. Maurice Lisle, of Gisborough, North East Riding, Jan. 13, '99, to Mr. Hodges, accepts the Correspondence.

16. Mr. Jonathan Colmer, of Babcary, in Somersetshire, Jan. 16, '99, to Mr. Shute, accepts the Correspondence.

17. Mr. Robert Burscough, of Totness, Devonshire, January 20, '99, to Mr. King, accepts the Correspondence.

18. Dr. Hopkins, of Worcester, Jan. 22, '99, to Dr. Hayley, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

19. (Lay) Mr. Henry Gilbert, of Locko, Derbyshire, Jan. 20, '99, to Mr. Hilmer, Saith, That y^e^ Clergy of that County are unwilling to unite in Societies till they have order from their Bishop ; & advises y^t^ the Bp. should be prevailed with to write to Mr. Horton, Minister of All Saints in Derby—

The Minister of Morley, of the same date, advises y^e^ same thing.

20. Dr. John Tyler, Dean of Hereford, Jan. 23, '99, to Dr. Hayley, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

21. Mr. John Davies, Minister[1] of Bodlwythan, Flintshire, Jan. 27, '99, to Dr. Evans, Saith, that y^e^ Clergy had met & agreed to y^e^ same Articles with those at Wrexham ; only deemed it proper to remove their Monthly Lectures from place to place to receive y^e^ Sacrament, & make a collection for y^e^ poor, & distribute y^e^ Alms, every Meeting. The Circular Letter was communicated to all the Clergy there present.

22. Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, Nottinghamshire, Jan. 27, '99, gives hopes of a Meeting of the Clergy about Nottingham ; desires to be inform'd how far he may communicate y^e^ Papers of this Society, & in what Method. The Clergy in those parts have not seen the Archbishop of Canterbury's Letter.

23. Mr. N. Ellison, Jan. 27, '99, from Newcastle, Northumberland, to S^r^ George Wheeler, Saith, That y^e^ Town of Newcastle hath made y^e^ Education & Catechizing of youth very easie & cheap, & that many poor are taught gratis. That y^e^ Town hath provided two Catecheticall Lectures. He hopes y^t^ the Traders to America will furnish Libraries there ; proposes y^t^ every Author of an usefull Book should give one or two copies to the Plantations ; promises his utmost assistance in discouraging Immorality and Prophaneness.

24. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton-on-y^e^-Hill, in Derbyshire, Jan. 27, '99, tells Mr. Hodges, y^t^ he Supposes he has recd. hints from another hand where the Reformacon in those parts sticks, & is ready to give acco^t^ of all other difficulties started with design to stop its progress, & to propose a method to remove them.

25. S^r^ William Dawes, from Boking, in Essex, to Mr. Nelson, Feb. 5, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

26. Mr. Robert Humphries, from Harlech, Merionethshire, to Dr. Evans, Feb. 6, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

27. Mr. Edward Welshman, from Lapworth, Warwickshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 12, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

28. Mr. R. Willett, of Stretton, near Cirencester, Glocestershire, Feb. 12, Signifies to y^e^ Society his approbation of y^e^ Societies for Reformation, & their methods, & his own readiness to promote their Design, desires the advice of this Society, & adds that y^e^ Clergy are well disposed towards it, & that they are very happy in a sober, prudent Gentry, & advises that application be made to them.

29. Mr. John Bradshaw, of Namptwich, Cheshire, Feb. 12, '99, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Saith, That 400 of le Clark's[2] Letters had been dispersed in those parts by a Member of Parlm^t^, that y^e^ inundation of vice is owing to the Toleration, that in order to Suppress it we must have more Religious Magistrates ; desires Mr. Chamberlayne

[1] The word Minister is scored through in another MS., and "living at" substituted for it, and after Bodlwythan is inserted "A private tutor in St. Asaph parish."

[2] "Five Letters concerning the Inspiration of Holy Scriptures," 1690. John Le Clerc, a celebrated Protestant writer, born at Geneva 1657. Renounced Calvinism and became a zealous Arminian. Died 1736.

to Signifie y^e^ design of this Society to y^e^ Bp. of Chester, without whose knowledge and approbation he will do nothing.

30. Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, Nottinghamshire, Feb. 14, '99, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Saith, That most of y^e^ Clergy he hath discoursed w^th^ approve y^e^ Design. That he had written to y^e^ A.Bishop of York about it, & desired his sentim^ts^ ; and that he had recd. a very favourable answer from him, & doubts not but that y^e^ encouragem^t^ y^e^ A.Bp. gave will soon forward y^e^ Design in his Neighb^r^hood, desires directions from this Society.

31. Mr. Fr. Bragge, of Hitchin, Hartfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 15, '99 expresses his approbation of y^e^ design, & desires to know what Correspondence is expected by y^e^ Society from y^e^ members of it, & in what manner it is to be carried on, that he may be y^e^ better able to give a direct answer.

32. Mr. Tatam, of Sutton-on-y^e^-Hill, in Derbyshire, to Mr. Chamberlaine, Feb. 15, '99, promises to use his endeavours to engage y^e^ Clergy of his Neighb^r^hood in Societies, & to pursue any farther measures w^ch^ this Society shall deem proper, advises y^t^ each of the Clergy should have y^e^ Occasional Letter & y^e^ Bedfordshire Acco^t^ more especially, five persons whom he names, who have great influence on y^e^ rest of y^e^ Clergy. That w^thout the order & directions of y^e^ Bp. nothing can be done, & therefore hopes this Society will procure them.

33. Mr. James Harries, of Lantrissent, Glamorganshire, to Dr. Evans, Feb. 15, '99, Saith he hath put up two Schools, & set up Catechetical Lectures in his Parish and hopes his example will obtain thro' y^e^ whole County.

34. Mr. Thomas Ibbot, of Swaffam, Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 16, '99, Saith, he heartily wishes y^e^ design of y^e^ ArchBp.'s Letter and y^e^ Bedfordshire acco^t^ may be promoted in his neighb^r^hood, intimates y^t^ the State of Religion in those parts is very lamentable, & accepts y^e^ Correspondence w^th^ this Society.

35. Mr. Jno. Edwards, from Lwydiarth, Montgomeryshire, to Dr. Evans, Feb. 16, '99, Saith, That Dr. Wynne, y^e^ Chancellor, approves of y^e^ design, that y^e^ Rural Dean of Pola had summoned his Clergy by a Circular Letter—that they had met & resolved on particulars conformable to their Brethren at Wrexham, too tedious here to insert, vide, that they intend to hold their Meetings at two Market Towns alternately, that in y^e^ whole Deanery there is but one Free School endowed for poor Children to learn to read, &c., complains of the great number of y^e^ Poor, & how difficult it will be to raise a Fund for their Education, gives a great Charact^r^ of Mr. Vaughan, of Lwydiarth, a Gentleman w^th^ whom he dwells, obliges his Curate to teach y^e^ youth of y^e^ Parish where he resides not, and in his other Parish he has made some advances towards setling a Free School, which will be opened after Easter, desires every Clergyman in his neighb^r^hood may have y^e^ printed Account of y^e^ Society & y^e^ Bedfordshire Letter, Saith that it is not difficult to put in practice y^e^ Design of Reformation in those

parts, the Bp. of y^e^ Diocess being y^e^ general Patron, Desires Dr. Evans to write to the Rural Deans to forward y^e^ work.

36. Mr. Elison, Feb. 17, '99, from Newcastle, Northumberland, gives directions to Mr. Chamberlayne how to send to him.

37. Mr. Bedford, from Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 17, '99, Saith, That a meeting of y^e^ Clergy at Bristol had been obstructed by Mr. Cary w^ch^ he has hopes of reviving, that he would communicate o^r^ Circular Letter to y^e^ Clergy & send y^e^ sentim^ts^, gives a short acc^t^ of w^t^ is done to educate y^e^ Poor at Bristol.

38. Dr. Hopkins, from Worcester, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 17, '99, Saith, That y^e^ Bishop at his visitation recomended y^e^ meetings of y^e^ Clergy, & that they resolved to begin early at y^e^ spring, that he will endeav^r^ first to get a meeting of y^e^ Rural Deans & some others of y^e^ principal Clergy, and w^th^ them consult y^e^ settlement of y^e^ meetings in y^e^ most convenient places of y^e^ County, desires an Acco^t^ of the Correspond^ts^ in y^e^ neighbouring Counties of Warwick, Glocester, &c., and promises to communicate all material occurrencies to this Society.

39. Mr. Price, of Wrexham, in Flintshire, Feb. 18, '99, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Saith, That y^e^ Clergy in Denbighshire & Flintshire have associated according to y^e^ Bedfordshire model, that they resolved to rectifie what was amiss in themselves w^th^ respect to y^e^ Rubricks & Canons. To send for a considerable number of small Books. He desires to see our methods of raising subscriptions and regulating the Schools.

40. Mr. John Scot, of Northwood, in y^e^ Isle of Weight, to Mr. Bromfeild, Feb. y^e^ 19, '99, accepts y^e^ Correspondence, desires to know y^e^ methods of this Society has formed, & to have printed y^e^ papers, & that a Copy of our general Letter may be sent to four Clergymen, whose names he mentions, to induce them to assist him ; & desires Mr. Bromfeild to engage some Gentlemen of the Island in the Design.

41. Mr. Will. Fenwick, of Hallaton, Leicestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 19, '99, approves y^e^ Design in every Branch of it, & prays y^t^ the whole Kingdom may unanimously concurr, Saith, y^t^ some of the Clergy in his neighbourhood have their monthly meeting, that he had recommended to them Certain Queries mentioned in his Letter in order to promote a general Reformation of manners.

42. Mr. Robt. Burschough, of Totness, Devonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 20, '99, accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

43. Mr. George Raymond, of Ipswich, Suffolk, to Dr. Slare, Feb. 20, '99, Saith, a Society is lately begun at Ipswich under his direction, & y^t^ they have set up Evening prayers w^ch^ are very laudably frequented ; & were propounding y^e^ Design of Schools.

44. Mr. P. Smith, of Kimbolton, Huntingtonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 20, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

45. Dr. Will. Nichols, of Selsey, in Sussex, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 20, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

46. Mr. W. Dobson, of Chiddesdon, Hantshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 21, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

47. Dr. Nichols of Selsey, in Sussex, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 23, '99, approves the advice of beginning the work by a Meeting of y^e^ Clergy, & accordingly hath written to the Bishop for his consent & advice.

48. Mr. Welshman, from Lapworth, Warwickshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 26, '99, promises his utmost endeav^rs^ to promote y^e^ Design of this Society, tho' he forsees many difficulties, Saith, he has endeavoured these ten years to get a School for y^e^ poor of his Parish; w^ch^ does not answer his expectation, the Houses being at such distance y^t^ the smaller Children cannot come, & the parents cannot spare others from their work; on this head he desires the advise of this Society. He will endeavour to obtain a meeting of y^e^ Clergy, the Bishop having already recommended it. However, He fears it will be of little use by reason of y^e^ Poverty of the Clergy.

49. Mr. Scot, of Northwood, in y^e^ Isle of Weight, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 26, '99, directs how to convey ought to him.

50. Dr. Hopkins, from Worcester, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 26, '99, Complains of y^e^ great damage arising to the Church from Popish Patrons, proposes that some quick & easie way may be provided to convict Recusants, so as to render them & their Trustees incapable of Presenting; as by making void all Grants made by them of Advousons since last Xtmas, & all others not made on valuable considerations to be proved in some Court of Record, &c., and w^th^ all urges it as no hard matter to devest them of Advowsons.[1]

51. Mr. Ro. Willett, of Stratton, near Cirencester, Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 26, '99, Saith he hath written to y^e^ Bishop of Glouces^r^ desiring him to put him upon using his endeavours to form Societies of y^e^ Clergy, promises to acc^t^ for y^e^ progress of y^e^ Design from time to time, together w^th^ the discouragements & difficulties it shall meet withall.

52. Mr. Bradshaw, of Namptwich, in Cheshire, To Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 26, '99, desires to know the Names of the Members of this Society, Saith, the Clergy of the Deanery have met at his house every Month for these two years last past, but cannot say y^t^ all are brought to one exact Conformity to the Canons. Complains of Dr. Bray for not continuing his Correspondence w^th^ him, &c., as likewise of y^e^ want of good Justices, without whom little Reformation of manners can be expected. That they have attempted to erect Schools for the Poor without success, Says the Authors must pay the Carriage of what peices are sent till they have more exactly form'd themselves.

53. A. Deacon Yate, to Mr. Chamberlayne, from Marlborough, Feb. 27, '99, Saith he hath disposed of several of the Bedfordshire Letters among the Clergy, but does not find them very forward to follow the

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[1] By 3 Jac. I., c. 5, s. 13, a Popish recusant convict is disabled to present. Further Acts confirming this were 1 William and Mary, c. 26, s. 2; 13 Anne, c. 13; 11 George II., c. 17, s. 5; 10 George IV., c. 7, ss. 15, 16, 17, 18. *See* Phillimore, pp. 394–401.

example, that they have been encouraged thereto by y^e^ command and example of their Diocesan ever since his first appearance among them, that his L^d^ship had given three hundred Pounds per Ann., one hundred Pounds whereof passeth thro' his hands for an Augmentation to the poorer Clergy, Exhibitions in either University, & apprenticing poor Children; hopes to effect something after next Easter Visitation, Intreats directions from this Society.

54. Mr. Lewis, of Acryse, Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Feb. 28, '99, can find but two Clergymen within ten miles round him whom he can confide in as favourers of the Design, that y^e^ Clergy exposed it as a reviving of Presbyterian Classes encouraging Fanaticism Contrary to y^e^ 25^th^ of Hen. 8., cap. 19,[1] a breach of y^e^ 12^th^ Canon, an Usurpation on the Rights of the Convocation & an inlet to division and separation, that some reflected on the Arch Bishop's Letter as unintelligible with regard to this matter, & are averse to the Gentry's joyning with them. That at Canterbury there is a Society of Young men, that y^e^ Clergy have agreed to preach a Monthly Lecture to them gratis, & hopes this may be a means by degrees to form a Society of the Clergy and to get Subscriptions for a School; that this Society of Young men have evening Prayers in some Church or other every day where there is a vast concourse of Young people, & has hopes of publick Catechizing there.

55. Mr. James Harries, from Lantrissent, Glamorganshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 1^st^, '99, Signifies his earnest desires that the Design may be successfull, and promises to do what in him lies to forward it; says he will communicate y^e^ papers which shall be sent him by this Society, to his Brethren of Monmouthshire, &c., so soon as he shall receive them, that he has begun Catechetichal Lectures in y^e^ several Chappels of his great Parish, & hopes to carry them on, together with the Schooling of Poor Children.

56. Mr. Nickendall, from Pelyn, near Fowey, in Cornwall, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 2^d^, '99, Signifies his hearty concurrance w^th^ y^e^ Designs of this Society, and expects farther Instructions.

57. Mr. Thomas Ibbott, of Swaffam, Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 4, '99, Signifies his intentions of Communicating y^e^ Designs of this Society to y^e^ Clergy at their Generals the week after Easter, & that, if Application were made to Dr. Trimnel A.Deacon there would be no doubt of success.

58. Mr. Joh. Gilbert, from Plimouth, Devonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 4, '99, Signifies Mr. Kendall's acceptance of y^e^ Correspondence; promises to contribute what in him lies towards the Design, & desir's particular instructions from this Society.

59. Mr. William Fenwick, of Hallaton, Leicestershire, to Mr. Cham-

[1] This Act requires the Royal Assent to Constitutions and Canons. The XIIth Canon excommunicates any person affirming "that it is lawful for any sort of ministers and lay persons, or either of them, to join together, and make rules, orders, or constitutions in causes ecclesiastical without the King's authority."

berlayne, March 5, '99, earnestly recommends to this Society Mr. Blackwell, Minister of Brampton, in Northamtonshire, who, he Saith, has drawn up Articles to be Subscribed by the Clergy at their next meeting, So like those sent by Mr. Chamberlayne, as if they had been transcribed for each other.

60. Mr. Arnold Bowen, of Langam, near Pembroke, Southwales, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 4, '99, Saith he had communicated y^e^ 2^d^ Circular Letter of this Society to the Clergy at their Monthly Lecture, Feb. 29^th^ past, in y^e^ Town & County of Haversford West; when y^e^ Clergy then present 8 or 9 in number formed themselves into a Society, seven of whom subscribed an obligation in this Letter recited, that some scruple the Design for want of y^e^ Mandate of their Diocesan,[1] who, he Saith hath rather discouraged Piety, &c., by ridiculing their Monthly Lectures, &c., that they have drawn up a Scheme for taking Subscriptions for Schools, whereunto most of the Justices Subscribed at their Quarter Sessions, & that the Roll were sent into the several Parishes; & hopes that Schools may be erected in y^e^ most convenient places of y^e^ County, & that S^r^ John Philipps his presence is much wanting to promote it, doubts not of success, if the next Diocesan patronizes these Designs, desires papers & instructions from this Society.

61. Mr. James Smith, of Cottenham, in Cambridgeshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 8^th^, '99, Saith he sees not how he can any way advance the pious Design proposed to him in Mr Chamberlayne & Mr. Comyn's Lett^rs^ except by contributing towards y^e^ expence of it, which he shall willingly do. That himself and others had thoughts of associateing, but despaired of success for want of sufficient assistance. That the Education of Poor Children will go but a little way towards a Reformation, since Deism, Prophaneness, & Irreligion reign chiefly among those of Estates & Titles, desires time to advise before he enters into y^e^ Society, which he is ready to do if he finds he can do any service to Religion, desires also to know who y^e^ members are, & what will be expected from him.

62. Dr. Hugh Todd, from Carlyle, Cumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 14^th^, '99, Signifies his approbation of y^e^ Design, & promises to contribute his best endeavours to promote it. That Deism, &c. are not known in those parts, among y^e^ generality. That there is a great want of Schools for the education of the poor, gratis & y^t^ the poor are very remisse in sending their children to school where there is oportunity. That he hath distributed divers books, & wishes he had others to join w^th^ him in the expence. That he hath a brother in Jamaica, Rector of St. Elizabeth's, who went over two years ago, & carried w^th^ him about Sixty Pounds worth of Books, by Dr. Bray's direction. Him he recommends as one that may be serviceable to y^e^ Design.

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[1] "Viz.—the Bishop of St. David's," added in another hand.

63. Mr. A.Deacon Booth, to Mr. Hodges, of Essington, Durham March 16, '99, Signifies, That in a late Sermon before the Mayor & Aldermen of Durham he had endeavoured to perswade them to put y^e^ Laws[1] in Execution, &c., & acquainted them w^th^ a Society of young Gentlemen & Townsmen who meet together to swear & drink. That he has sufficiently furnished y^e^ Highlands w^th^ Books of Piety and Devotion, hath taken acc^t^ of all y^e^ new Converts to Popery w^th^in his Jurisdiction, and designs to send them Books in order to recover them, & to perswade y^e^ Clergy to use their best endeavours to reconcile y^e^ Dissenters, hath much reformed Durham by visiting y^e^ Publick Houses there on Sundays in the evening. That the Pastoral Letter takes well with the Gentry & Clergy, and that considerable numbers are sent for. That he will punctually observe y^e^ instructions of the Society. That the Vicar of Newcastle hath lately published an excellent Sermon entitled *The Magistrates obligation to punish Vice.* That in Lent he orders y^e^ youth above sixteen to come to him to be instructed in y^e^ Communion, & finds very good effects of it, & wishes all Ministers would do y^e^ like. Wishes likewise that the A.Bishop of Canterbury would by Letter command him to form Societies of the Clergy at his Visitation, desires some Acc^ts^ of the Societies of the Clergy, y^e^ A.Bp's Provincial Letter, w^th^ the Methods for Schools, &c. as likwise an Acc^t^ from time to time, of the progress of the Societies for Reformation of Manners; & that some Methods may be taken to Suppress the Quakers.

64. Mr. Welshman, of Lapworth, Warwickshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 18^th^, '99, writes that y^e^ Clergy of his Neighbourhood have resolved to meet at Henly, in Arden, the first Thursday in every Month, & had deferr'd their consultations in expectation of Papers from this Society, & that an Acco^t^ of the names of this Society would be very acceptable to himself & Brethren.

65. Mr. Wesley, of Epworth, Lincolnshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 22, '99, accepts the Correspondence.

66. Mr. Willett, of Stratton, near Cirencester, Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 23, '99, Writes, that the Bishop of Glocester had given him special direction and encouragem^t^ to invite y^e^ Clergy of the Deanery wherein he lives to meet & consult together, & that he had written to each of them, & believes they will all meet on Wednesday in Easter week, at Cirencester. He is urgent for y^e^ Papers of this Society, & promises to give acco^t^ of the Debates & resolves of y^e^ Clergy at y^e^ meeting.

67. Mr. Allen, of Stoke, in Staffordshire, to Mr. Hodges, March 2, '99, declines y^e^ Correspondence with this Society, because of his own incapacity & unfitness, his indispensible obligation to attend his own People who are very poor, ignorant, loose and numerous, & consequently require much care & Charity, Says, he has distributed four hundred Monitors & familiar Guides, &c., & designs to distribute Dr.

[1] There was a law passed against profane swearing, 6 William III., 1695.

Williams Catechism, & to pursue Dr. Bray's Method in his Baptismal Covenant, and to read Catechetical Lectures from May to September, & that to this service he has devoted himself; & therefore pleads, y^t^ it is impracticable for him to be concerned abroad, but however is ready to embrace his directions, if he please to put him into a better way.

68. Mr. Nic. Kendall, of Cornwall, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 14 March, '99, Thanks y^e^ Society for their good opinion of him, &c., desires to know the names of y^e^ Members that compose it, promises to consult w^th^ his Diocesan ab^t^ the Meeting of y^e^ Clergy, Says, that he has distributed Dr. Patrick's little Tract on y^e^ Sacrament[1] to every family in his Parish, and desires that some other Practicall Tracts may be recomended to him for the same Purpose, &c.

69. Mr. Bragg, of Hitching, Hartfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 16 March, '99, wishes good success to the pious undertakings of the excellent Society, but excuses himself from y^e^ Correspondence, the Circumstances of the Neighbourhood being such as rend^r^ him uncapable of doing any service, &c.

70. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 23, 99, writes, That Mr. Whinfeild approves of y^e^ Design of this Society, hopes that he and others of the Magistrates will promote it when o^r^ instructions shall be communicated to them. That some of the Northumberland Clergy & two of y^e^ Justices had met at Morpeth & agreed to form themselves into a Society for the Reformation of Manners. That they had seen our Papers, & desired to settle a Correspondence w^th^ us, and appointed Mr. Fenwick, Rector of Morpeth, to receive our instructions.

71. Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 30^th^ 1700, writes, That twelve of y^e^ most noted of y^e^ Clergy had met, & resolved to raise a Fund for the Education of poor Children, & Supplying y^e^ poorer Clergy w^th^ Books, that all there present subscribed, & agreed to promote y^e^ like in their respective Neighbourhoods; & that their present success gives them hopes of raising a considerable stock; & that y^e^ Subscription is for one year commencing at Lady day, 1700. He desires the Methods for the Schools and other Papers of this Society.

72. (Lay) Mr. George Parker, of Parkhall, Staffordshire, to Mr. Hodges, March 16th, '99, sent enclosed a Copy of a Letter recd. from a Clergyman of Cheshire to whom he had sent one of Mr. Hodges' Packets. This Copy bears date March y^e^ 9th, '99, & advises that Dr. Entwistle, Mr. A.Deacon Vaughan, & at least 17 or 18 Clergymen more at their Meeting & Monthly Lecture, on y^e^ 27th of February, well approved of Mr. Hodges' Letter; agreed on y^e^ distributions of y^e^ small pieces, & bespoke of a Bookseller then present

[1] Bishop Patrick's "The Christian Sacrifice, a Treatise shewing the Necessity, End, and Manner of receiving the Holy Communion, with Prayers." 5th Edition, 12mo. London: 1770.

two thousand Pastorals, besides several Xtian Monitors & Exhortations to frequent Communion. The Associating themselves was proposed, but the debate thereof deferr'd to a further Meeting, y^e^ result whereof he promises to acc^t^ for in due time.

73. (Lay) Mr. Gilbert of Locko near Derby, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 30th, 1700, advises, That he had communicated y^e^ Circular Letter sent him from this Society, to divers Clergymen at y^e^ Assizes, who approved y^e^ Contents, & shewed a ready compliance to associate themselves, provided they could have command from their Diocesan. That they desire a Letter to y^e^ same purpose w^th^ that sent to him from this Society (mutatis mutandis) may be directed to Mr. Ashenhurst, y^e^ A.Deacon and his Clergy at y^e^ Visitation, at Derby, on y^e^ 10th of April, w^ch^ course they esteem as most expedient for their present Union & justification of their proceedings, till the L^d^ Bp. of Litchfeild & Coventry shall please to give them further countenance & encouragement. He accepts it as a favour in being proposed a member of this Society, and promises his utmost endeavours to forward the Design, and adds that he is now Seventy years of Age.

74. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 6th, 1700, writes, That he had recd. y^e^ Pacquet sent him and had taken care to comunicate y^e^ contents of it to y^e^ neighbouring Clergy.

75. Mr. Scot, of Northwood, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 6th, 1700, writes, That he had recd. the Pacquet sent him, & so soon as he has recovered his health, will comunicate y^e^ contents thereof to y^e^ Clergy & send their resolutions.

76. Mr. George Whinfeild, of Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 9th, 1700, accepts the Correspondence w^th^ this Society, & desires his name may not be mention'd in printer.

77. Mr. Bedford, of Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 10th, 1700. That his endeavours to promote a Society of y^e^ Clergy have been ineffectual, and therefore has joined himself to a Society for Reformation in Bristol, consisting of about fifty of y^e^ chief Inhabitants, complains y^t^ the Tayerns refuse to open their doors to y^e^ constables on y^e^ Lord's day, & other unseasonable hours, & desires to know what measures y^e^ Societies for Reformation pursue on y^e^ like occasions. As a means of propagating Xtian Knowledge, he proposes y^e^ promoting the Study of y^e^ Hebrew Language, the neglect whereof hath given y^e^ Jews occasion to undermine Xtianity, & to buy up all Books of Oriental Learning that we might be destitute of weapons to use against them. He proposes likewise y^e^ suppressing of prophane songs & ballads, & dispersing Hymns w^th^ easy Tunes composed to them. If y^e^ Society approve of these proposals, he will further signifie wherein he may be capable of serving them.

78. Mr. W. Wootton, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 6th, 1700, Signifies his hearty concurrence w^th^ the Designs of this Society, & expects farther instructions.

79. Mr. Willett, of Stretton, Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 15, 1700, writes, That eighteen Clergymen met at Cirencester,

y^e^ first Wednesday in April, when they agreed to meet y^e^ first Wednesday in every month, to endeavour y^e^ religious Education of the Youth in their several Parishes, & accordingly to deliver in their respective sentiments on that subject at the next meeting, & to dispers y^e^ Smaller Tracts whereof he demands 300 Pastorals, w^th^ some of Dr. Asheton's pieces. Complains of y^e^ backwardness of the Clergy & others in giving Informations. Signifies his receipt of the Packet & hopes to be able to give acc^t^ of particular conclusions att y^e^ next Meeting.

80. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 13th, 1700, advises that Particular Members of the Society should take upon them y^e^ care of returning particular Answers to several of the Correspondents lest their zeal raised by the two first Circular Letters should cool through a seeming neglect, &c. Advises that Application be made to some of the richest Parishes within the walls to support y^e^ School in Southwark, &c. Advises also an addition of new members to share the expenses that grow upon the Society, particularly recommends S^r^ Richard Blackmore & fears that Mr. Skelton A. Deacon of Bedford opposes the Meeting of the Clergy, says, that he has prevailed w^th^ his neighbours to set up a work house & School in his Parish for forty poor Children, whom he will Catechise twice a week, &c.

81. Mr. Will. Morgan, of Pristeen, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 14 April, 1700, says that the Death of his wife has hinder'd the Correspondence but that he heartily approves of the generous designs of the Society and desires to be informed how he may be farther serviceable.

82. Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 9th, 1700. That the lives of the Clergy in Cleveland are so grossly irregular, that it would render their meetings contemptible ; & therefore proposes whether some method to cure this evil be not the likeliest way to discourage & root out wickedness. That he hopes to obtain something towards the teaching of poor Children, but despairs of any fixed settlement for a School ; complains of y^e^ neglect of the poor in sending their Children to School where a charitable provision is made for them. He saith, that he has set apart three afternoons in y^e^ week after Evening Prayer, for the private instruction of the youth in Catechism, besides what the Church enjoyns in Publick, & that this hath brought a storm upon him from his Brethren, notwithstanding he did it with the consent & Approbation of his Diocesan, whence he infers, how unfit he is to influence y^e^ Clergy about him ; however he resolves to pursue the Instructions of this Society, & desires to know whether he may not communicate y^e^ Circular Letters, especially the first, to y^e^ ArchBishop. Signifies that he has dispersed a considerable Number of Small Books, & y^t^ the Lady Foulis has furnished him w^th^ divers.

83. Mr. Raymond, of Ipswich, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 11, 1700. That he expects not to see any formed Societies of Clergy in his neighbourhood, tho' many are intent upon their buisness &

enquiring of each other y^e^ best methods of doing it & have distributed some quantities of small books. That the religious Society in Ipswich have set up a School to teach poor Children to read & learn their Catechism ; that they have received abundance of Papers, & Dr. Bray's Projects and concludes w^th^ directions how any other Papers may be communicated to him.

84. Mr. Robt. Wynne, from Carnarvon, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 15th, 1700, referrs to a Letter he sent to Dr. Evans, wherein he communicated y^e^ state of Religion, & of y^e^ Societies of the Clergy in y^e^ Diocese of Bangor. That y^e^ Clergy do highly approve y^e^ good Designs mentioned in Mr. Chamberlayne's Letter, & resolve to pursue them. That the Clergy of each Deanery meet by themselves & make it their constant endeavour to stir up each other to a strict & conscientious discharge of the Ministerial Functions. That divers of y^e^ Clergy have contributed towards Schools, and others disposed to do y^e^ like, & great numbers have been lately taught to read. That y^e^ Catechumens are much increased notwithstanding the miserable neglect of Parents. That the vulgar understand not English Books, & the people are generally so poor y^t^ little help can be expected from them. That y^e^ Bishop & his Clergy have been at the sole charge of Printing the Welsh Books lately translated, and are willing to subscribe to more ; & will endeavour to obtain y^e^ Subscriptions from y^e^ Gentry. That the Clergy never meet but they first send to the Bp. for his advice and instructions, & also at every Meeting send him a particular Acc^t^ of the several transactions at that Meeting, which he imparts to the A. Bishop. That Dr. Jones is leaving Anglesey & coming to settle at Bangor : so y^t^ for the future his Letter may serve Carnarvonshire ; & upon a motion made him, he will recommend a successor to uphold y^e^ Correspondence in Anglesey.

85. Dr. W. Bernard, of Malden, in Surrey, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 19th, 1700. That he finds y^e^ Clergy of his Neighbourhood very averse to y^e^ contents of his Letter, objecting that such Meetings are against the Law, & that y^e^ Laws in being are sufficient for y^e^ Reformation of manners. That what they do in relation to Schools they design to do in their own Parishes ; and that they do not think fit to submit to be directed by men whose names they are not to know, and concludes, I'me sorry to tell you, that I find I shall not be able to do your Society any service in this Design.

86. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 22, 1700, recommends two Clergymen as Correspondent^s^ with the Society in y^e^ room of Mr. Bragge, for Harfordshire, viz., Dr. Fisher, or Dr. Cole, A. D. of St. Albans, particularly the latter who has a weekly Meeting of the Clergy at his house ; fears our atempt of raising a Society in Surrey will be ineffectual, by reason of the divisions amongst the Clergy of that Diocese. Says that Mr. James the Patron of the Vicar of Rygate is a great friend to the Design ; gives a good caracter of Mr. Seaman. Recomends Mr. Bulstrode, y^e^ Solicitor of the Excise, to be chosen a Member of the Society.

87. Mr. W. Gilpin, of Scaleby, near Carlisle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 18, 1700, highly approves of the Design of this Society, & promises his concurrent endeavours, tho' by reason of the extream poverty of that Country, he can expect but little success. He believes voluntary Societies to be the most proper means to find out a provision for y^e^ Poor, till the Laws shall do it, writes, that the A.Deacon of Carlisle has taken a dislike at y^e^ Society for Reformation of Manners, wherein himself, with the Mayor of Carlisle, the Chancellor, & some others are engaged; that at his visitation he charged all those Societies as contrary to the Laws both Civil & Ecclesiastical, and of most pernitious consequence to Church & State, & treated them in very vile terms; declaring that, so far as his influence can prevaile, he will keep all people from joining in these Societies. He desires y^e^ direction and assistance of y^e^ Societies for Reformation.

88. Mr. John Gilbert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 23, 1700, writes that he answered his second Letter, that Dr. Bray left five Pounds to a Library at Plimouth, that the Mayor had subscribed five Pounds, and that farther subscriptions are in agitation, approves y^e^ proceedings of the Clergy in Bedford & Buckingham Shires. Saith he will shew Mr. Chamberlayne's Letter to the Bishop, & if he approves, doubts not of success; if not, he thinks it in vain to attempt Societies of y^e^ Clergy, there being very few inclined to joyn with him in a matter of y^t^ nature; complains of want of success in soliciting charities, having in many years been able to obtain but twenty Pounds towards y^e^ Corporation of poor Ministers' widows & Children, which he ascribes to y^e^ ill-management of the Charities already settled in that Town. He desires this Society to write to Mr. Burscough, Vicar of Totness, to joyn with him.

89. Mr. James Harris, of Landrissent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 26, 1700. That he received y^e^ Packet of Books & Papers directed to him from this Society; promises to disperse them & to give Acc^t^ of y^e^ success.

90. (Lay) Mr. John Cocks, near y^e^ Colledge, in Gloucester, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 27, 1700, accepts y^e^ Correspondence, & promises his best endeavours to promote the Design. Saith, that y^e^ Bishop of Gloucester hath encouraged the setting up Schools in that City; & believes it may be successfull, & desires to have y^e^ methods & orders of those in London.

91. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 29, '700, recommends to the Society Mr. Blackwell, Rector of Brampton, for a Correspondent for Northamptonshire, in the room of Mr. King, who by his silence seems to decline the business. Mentions y^e^ pernicious consequence of obscene Ballads disperst about the Country by Pedlars, & thinks it ought not to be beneath the thoughts of the Honourable Society, nor even of the Legislature to endeavour the suppression of them. Says that Mr. Wotton will impart his thoughts upon that matter, if y^e^ Society shall please to encourage him, &c.

92. Mr. Price to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 29th, 1700. That he

received the Packet. That the Clergy in Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Mountgomeryshire, are united in Societies. That they had agreed to rectifie some abuses contrary to the Rubricks & Canons, and had put their agreement in execution with such success that they were encouraged to go on & rectifie others. That they had distributed the little Manuals mentioned in the Bedfordshire Letter (according to w^ch^ they had modelled their Societees) w^ch^ turns to good account. That they had resolved to be diligent in Catechizing the Youth, & design'd to Spend y^e^ Sumer Season therein, & had unanimously agreed to use Bishop Williams' Exposition.[1] That they agreed to endeavour to set up Free Schools for the Poor Children, & accordingly were making Notitias of their Parishes, & that they find it most convenient to Set up Welsh Schools, that being the Language w^ch^ y^e^ Parents best understand.

93. Mr. John Gilbert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, April 30, 1700. That he had not receiv'd y^e^ Printed Papers nor any Books. That Dr. Bray came to that Port Dec. 24, and Sail'd Jan. 3^d^ or 4^th^. That he will write to Mr. Burschough, with whose assistance he hopes Some good may be done. That he is Soliciting Contributions to y^e^ Design of this Society. He recommends Mr. James Young for a Lay Correspondent.

94. Mr. Fenwick, of Hallaton, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May y^e^ 1^st^, 1700. That he receiv'd a Pacquet y^e^ 28^th^ of April, and gives an high character of the Acc^t^ of the Societies for Reformation. That he began to suspect the Society had met w^th^ some discouragem^ts^ which had put a Stop to their Designs, because he had not heard from them for a long time, & that he is ready to contribute towards the charge of the Books they disperse. That 11 or 12 of the Clergy meet at Harborough, that they first go to Church, to Prayers, & adjourn to a Room in y^e^ Church which is their Library. That they had agreed to and sign'd certain Articles which he mentions at length. He desires farther directions from this Society.

95. Mr. Smith, of Cottenham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 2, 1700. That he hath neither interest nor acquaintance Sufficient to begin a Society but would gladly contribute his endeavours could there be proper persons found out to set that work on foot.

96. Mr. Archd. Booth, to Mr. Hodges, May 3, 1700. Sent enclosed y^e^ Order of the Justices of the Peace at their last Sessions for the County of Durham, Copies whereof he had sent to the Ministers desiring them to be watchfull to See y^t^ the Officers do their Duty in Suppressing vice, writes, that he hopes to engage y^e^ Justices in a Monthly Meeting to receive complaints, &c. That on Sunday he begins a Monthly Sacrament at Durham, where they used to have it but twice in the Year. That a Combination is begun for a Sermon every Sunday at a Small Town near Durham, where they had Prayers & Sermon

[1] "A Brief Exposition of the Church Catechism." By John Williams, D.D., Bishop of Chichester, 1696–1709.

only once in three weeks. That the Prebends will visit all the Churches within their jurisdiction this Sum̃er, & disperse the Small Books. That he is endeavouring to discover a gang of Fortune-Tellers, &c. That the Clergy are willing to form themselves into Societies, & want nothing but y^e^ Bishop's Countenance which he hopes to obtain. That he is endeavouring to Set up a Clergy-Feast for the Support of poor Ministers widows and their Children, & hopes to Succeed in it; that at his Visitation he lately recommended to the Clergy certain particulars here set down at large—viz^t^ Instructing the Youth to fit them for the Sacrament^t^. Private Instruction of the Colliers. Particular care of the Poor who live at a distance from the Parish Church. Reading y^e^ Proclamation, & Acts, & preaching on the Several occasions. Care that the Schoolmasters perform their Duty. Endeavours to gain y^e^ Dissenters, & particularly the late Converts to Popery. He's concerned at y^e^ neglect of applycation to my L^d^ Warrington, & my L^d^ Say & Seal of whose concurrence he is assured, & Says my L^d^ Warrington expected it, desires the A.Bp.'s Provincial Letter with the Bishop of London's Letter to his Clergy & w^th^ all to know how he may write to Mr. Chamberlayne. That he had recd. the Packet.

97. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, Northumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 4, 1700, writes, That had recd. the Papers which he highly approves. That they have one or more Religious Societies among them. That he hath dispersed y^e^ Papers among the Magistrates, & if they will unite, doubts not but the Clergy will follow. That he will Endeavour to get occasional Contributions for dispersing good Books, but dispairs of standing Subscriptions for Schools, & that the Town hath out of its common Revenue provided for teaching many poor besides what several private persons contribute. That they have a Cathechetical Lecture on Thursdays & Sundays. Lending Libraries he seems not to encourage, but wishes there were fixt ones in Small Curacys, & is willing to dispose of four hundred Abstracts provided Sixpence each Book may be applyed for a Standing Library for the Curacy of Gosford; he may have the choice of the Books, & not be obliged to buy them of Hawes unless he sell them as cheap as another. That he will ꝓpose Bristoll Model to the Magistrates, & desires this Society would recommend the Same to Alderman Whinfeild.

98. Mr. And. Cranston, of Rygate, in Surrey, to Mr. Shute, May 5, 1700. Accepts the Correspondence. That he had discoursed with three of y^e^ Clergy, who are willing to begin a Society at Rygate & will endeavour to perswade others, and that Mr. Hare, Sellyard & Bromhall promise their best assistance, & they will Sollicit others of y^e^ Clergy & Laity. He desires instructions for the forming of such a Meeting.

99. Mr. Tho. Curgenven, from Folk, near Shirburn, Dorset, to Mr. Shute, May 1^st^, 1700. Accepts y^e^ Correspondence, observes that for want of a pious application to Catechizing y^e^ Deists, &c., undermine our flocks. That every Sect retains Discipline, whilst the Established

& best Church is left precarious to an astonishm^{t}; and that Concubinage is openly maintained particularly in y^{e} Diocess of Wilts. That correction for practical Atheism is the general cry, y^{e} Church wanting no Champions for Doctrine & instruction. He desires to hear of Some matters of fact, wherein a triumph has been gained over any great Patrons of vice.

100. Mr. Burscough to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 4, 1700. That he recd. y^{e} Pacquet and offers to pay the charge. That he receives great Satisfaction from the Accounts of the Societies, & promises a ready concurrence wth the measures of this Society, in all ways consistent with Christian prudence, various in different places; refers his farther observations to Mr. King whom he expects shortly in y^{e} Country; is glad to understand Mr. Gilbert is engaged, tho' he as well as himself, are under some fears, considering their circumstances.

101. (Lay) Mr. Gilbert, of Locko, near Derby, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 8, 1700, highly approves y^{e} Circular Letter. That the Letter sent by this Society to the A.D. & Clergy at Derby was unsuccessfull, & presumes the Society have received the Account of it. That it can not be hoped the Laity should be forward in Spiritual concerns where the Clergy are apparently remisse, among whom little will be done unless the Bishop command or authorize it. He promises his utmost assistance.

102. Mr. Egerton Harding, of Newcastle-underline, Staffordshire, to Mr. Shute, May 8th, '700. Accepts y^{e} Correspondence. Signifies that himself wth about Sixteen of the Neighbouring Clergy hold a Monthly Lecture there for Suppressing Immorality & Prophaneness, & that the Magistrates & Gentry have promised their constant attendance. That they have entered into obligatory Articles, &c.—expects the directions of this Society touching communication of their Circular Letter.

103. Mr. Gibert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 10, 1700. That he recd. the Pacquet. That Mr. Burscough had written to him excusing himself as to forming Societies because he fears that they cannot have y^{e} consent of their Diocesan. Gives a great Character of Mr. Burscough, Signifies a wonderfull zeal to these Methods & promises particularly to sollicit Benefactions.

104. Mr. Whinfield, of Newcastle, Northumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 10, 1700. That he recd. the Circular Letter with the printed Paper, & that himself with Mr. Ellison will discourse S^{r} William Blacket & others in order to pmote y^{e} Design of y^{m}.

105. Mr. John Williams, A.Deacon, from Swansey, Glamorganshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 16, '700. That he had recd. two Letters & the Packet, & will return his Sentiments when he hath read & considered the Contents; that at present he is under great indisposition of Body & unfit for business.

106. Dr. Tylor, from Hereford, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 18th, 1700. Proposes that the Designs of this Society Should be laid before y^{e} Bishop of Hereford, as a proper means to induce him to recommend

y^e^ Same to y^e^ Gentry & Clergy in his Diocess which (he believes) would not fail of very good Success.

107. Mr. Joshua Horton, of Chaderton, near Manchester, Lancashire, May 17, 1700. That he had recd. & dispersed the particulars sent him according to direction—promises his hearty endeavours to promote y^e^ Design. Asks, whether a distribution of Books among the poor in the Country, or a particular subscription to be disposed of by the Society in London, be proposed ; which he will accordingly represent and promote among his Neighbours so soon as he is particularly informed.

108. Mr. Colmer, of Babcary, near Somerton, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 22, 1700. That he had applied himself to his Diocesan, who, w^th^ promise of his assistance encouraged him to go on. That he had prevailed with some of the Clergy to engage therein, & will acco^t^ for their proceedings when they shall meet. He recd. the Packet & sends for 200 Pastorall Letters.

109. Dr. John Jones, May 23, 1700. That the Clergy of the Diocese of Bangor are associated by the Bishop's Direction, who prescribed them the Methods & Measures of acting. That it will not be possible to do this Society any Service with respect to the Second Branch of their Design, by reason of the Poverty of that Country. That ignorance and ill practice are the Diseases of those parts, & therefore at their Meetings they consider of proper means to remove both, taking the Archbishop's Letter into particular and minute consideration, paragraph by paragraph ; & studying the properest way to put y^e^ King's Proclamation & Acts of Parliament in execution ; and that they had set up several Schools for poor Children in those parts. That his successor at Beaumaris Mr. Kerrick Eyton is not yet arrived & therefore knows not whether he will be disposed to correspond with the Society. He knows not whom to recommend for Cardiganshire, & as for Carnarvon, Since Mr. Wynne maintains correspondence for y^e^ County, it will be Sufficient for the future for him to receive his Notices from Mr. Wynne.

110. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, in Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 7 May, 1700. Says that the Endeavours of the Inferior Clergy towards a Reformation depend very much on the encouragement of their Diocesans, advises therefore that Application be made to the Bishops, and particularly to the Bishops of Litchfield and Hereford. That the Ministers of Luton & Dunstable were beginning Religious Societies. That he had opened a School in his Parish for forty poor Children to Learn Bone lace & to read & their Catechism. That the great Difficulty of putting the Laws in Execution arises cheifly from the Trouble & charges of convicting Criminals, &c.

111. Mr. Harding, of Newcastle Underline, in Staffordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, May 29, 1700. Promises to promote the Designs of this Society, and hopes in a short time to return a comfortable account of his Endeavours. That he particularly knows Mr. Parker & Allen, both persons of extraordinary zeal and goodness.

112. Dr. J. Knight, of Broughton, in Oxfordshire, June 1, 1700. That he has endeavour'd to promote the pious aims of this Society; that notwthstanding y^{e} Clergy a.e unexceptionable as to y^{r} lives & labours, yet having gen^{r}ally Cches wth Chappels annexed, & those illaudably endowed, are uncapable of Catecheticall Exercises wthout such assistance as they want means to provide, &, if they Should Catechize only, y^{e} people would all run to y^{e} Conventicles, from which scarce a Parish is Free. That he maintains one reading School in each of the two Parishes belonging to his Cch. He desires four or five dozen of any of y^{e} little Books y^{e} Society recomends, having furnished his Parish already wth the Cristian Monitor & Familiar Guide at my L^{d} Guildford's expence.

113. Mr. Nich. Kendal, of Pelyn, near Fowey, in Cornwall, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 3, 1700. That he had communicated the Designs of the Society to the Bishop of that Diocese, & found him utt^{r}ly averse thereto. That as to the design of dispersing Small Books, he will promote it as far as he can, & desires 100 Pastorals and a dozen of Dr. Bray's Books for an Essay, which he desires Mr. King would be pleased to direct to Mr. Francis Oliver, at Exeter, whom he will ord^{r} to pay for them.

114. Mr. Willett, of Stretton, in Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 10th, 1700. That he rec^{d} the Books sent him, & desires a farther Supply viz^{t} 900 of divers sorts mention'd in y^{e} postscript of his Lett^{r}. That divers have agreed to disperse them, w^{ch} is all they can be unanimous in. That erecting Schools is impracticable in Villages, but he hopes to do Something in Cirencester, as to the Clergy, he finds not y^{e} warmth he expected. That I only met the last 1st Wednesday, w^{n} they Subscribed for practical peices to be distributed; & y^{t} he hopes oth^{rs} will come in.

115. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, in Bedfordshire to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 10th, 1700. Recommends Dr. Jephcot, Minister of Evesholm & Prebend of Worcester, in the Room of Dr. Hopkins deceased, for a Correspondent in Worcestershire. Advises that Application be made to Mr. King of Northampton he being nearly related to the L^{d} Keeper. Says that he has acquainted y^{e} Bishop of Lincoln with the Designs of this Society, who was greatly satisfied therewith, &c. Says that Francis Bugg attended his L^{d}ship throughout his visitation & was encouraged by the Clergy of that Diocese. Advises the Printing & Dispersing the West Deerham Conference & that y^{e} Author Mr. Merriton will consent to it, &c.

116. Dr. Robert Wynne, of Gresford, in Denbeighshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 5, 1700. That himself & Mr. Price are so near Neighbours, that what shall be comunicated to either of them from this Society will be Sufficient for both; approves the design of forming the Clergy and other good men into Societies as most excellent. That the Society formed at Wrexham has hitherto gone on wth that Success, that they hope their Meetings will answer the good purposes for w^{ch} they were intended; and that this Society may expect from time to

time, to be informed of their proceedings; especially when any difficulty occurs. That they have distributed a considerable number of Books, & are consulting the education of poor Children a matter of much difficulty in those parts, no Welsh Schools being already Setled, w^ch^ language must be taught them, & Primers are ready to be printed for that purpose. He directs to send by Wrexham bagg.

117. (Lay) Mr. Lloyd & Mr. John Vaughan, from Alty Cadno, in Carmarthenshire, to Mr. Hodges, June 5th, 1700. Cheerfully accepts the Correspondence, & desire directions from this Society. Mr. Vaughan sends for 800 Welsh Monitors and Guides and two hundred English.

118. Mr. Tatam, of Sutton-on-y^e^-Hill, in Derbyshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 12th, '700. That the Gentry & Clergy about Derby were dispos'd to associate, that Mr. Wilson, Rector of Morley, had writ to y^e^ Bishop for his concurrence & directions, & that April 5th, he recd. answer from his L^d^ship. That he was not very well Satisfied w^th^ their Designs, & that he would reserve his own thoughts of the Matter to be deliver'd to his Clergy at his Primary Visitation; w^ch^ (Mr. Tatam adds) will not be as it is generally thought till 1701. That this Answer of the Bishop is kept as a Secret for fear of obstructing y^e^ good effects hoped for, from a Letter from this Society directed to y^e^ A.Deacon. That April 10th He communicated the intended Association to y^e^ Arch Deacon at his Visitation, who immediately express'd his approbation of it, & promised to recommend it to the Clergy; he had not time to do it in the Church, few dined with him, & to those he did recommend it, as likewise a petition to the justices then present in Sessions to put y^e^ Laws in Execution against Prophaneness, &c., to be signed by the Clergy, w^ch^ he offered first to sign himself, but being obliged suddenly to w^thdraw to take account of y^e^ Churchwardens, y^e^ whole was dropt, only the Arch Deacon at the request of some of the Clergy promis'd within a month or six weeks to write his mind fully to the Clergy with relation to what he had in short proposed them about associating themselves, w^ch^ he hath not yet done Mr. Tatam signifies that he intends to invite y^e^ Clergy to his house in order to possess them with y^e^ Design, & intreats this Society to furnish him with any Materials they shall think fit to plead this Cause & particularly w^th^ their answers to the objections following, viz^t^ 1. That the persons engaged in it are no true friends to the Church, and that Fanaticism is at the bottom of it; what occasions this is, That y^e^ Dissenters are associated at Darby, to suppress prophaneness, &c., tho' a leading person among the Dissenters did first Sollicit the Churchmen to undertake it, & said the Dissenters would do it if the Churchmen refused it. 2. That Should the Clergy now associate, it would be a reflection on them as if they had hitherto neglected their Duties. 3. That y^e^ Bedford and Buckinghamshire Clergy had nothing to do to prescribe to the rest of their Brethren, & that Surely the friends of the Church would not Subscribe to Scottish Methods, it having been objected that most of the Clergy concern'd in Bedford & Buckingham shires were Scotchmen, and Lov'd the Kirk.

119. Mr. Ibbot, of Swaffam, in Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 10th, 1700, gives a great Character of Mr. Woodhouse & an account of his cheerfulness of engaging in the Design ; and desires that two books sent to himself may be also sent to Mr. Woodhouse.

120. Mr. Bedford, of Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 17th, 1700. That he receiv'd the Pacquet ; had communicated our design to y^e^ Society for Reformation, who being in their infancy refus'd to join as yet, for fear of Clogging themselves too hard at first ; & He has communicated our last Letter to others & will do it to the Bishop. He concludes his Letter w^th^ an account of what is done by y^e^ Guardians of the Poor of Bristol.

121. (Lay) Coll. E. Woodhouse, of E. Lexham, Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 20, 1700, accepts the Correspondence & desires y^e^ instructions & pray^rs^ of this Society.

122. Mr. Gilbert, of Plimouth, Cornwall, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 20th, 1700. That when he consulted the Bishop[1] with relation to this Society, he found him averse to it, but that the main obstacle is, that the Members of this Society conceal their names ; they thinking it unreasonable to engage w^th^ men in the Clouds. That he himself will pursue the directions sent him. That Mr. Chamberlayne ought to have directed to Mr. James Young & not to John Young, Esq. and the way to engage him is by Mr. Burscough.

123. Mr. Harries, of Lantrissent, Glamorganshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 21st, 1700. That the Design of this Society was misrepresented by some officers of y^e^ Consistory Court of Llandaffe, as a Contrivance to render a Convocation useless & to weaken the Jurisdictions of y^e^ Episcopal office & particularly that of their Courts. That he hopes to set up a Meeting of the Clergy every fortnight, that he will send to the Bishop for his leave ; & think of a fit person for a Lay Correspond^t^ and y^t^ he will communicate what papers the Society will send him.

124. Mr. Adamson, of Burton, in Lincolnshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 22, 1700, Accepts y^e^ Correspondence & thanks the Society for the honour done him : & as for the proceedings of the Society of the Clergy, refers the Society to the account thereof Sent to S^r^ William Turnor.

125. Mr. King, of Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 30th, 1700. That Canon Gilbert & Burscough are mightily Satisfied w^th^ the designs of this Society, & will assist by such ways as may be agreeable to their Diocesan, whom they find an utter enemy to all Societies, and that he himself shall be forced to pursue the Same Methods.

126. Mr. Lewis, of Acryse, in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 4, 1700. Receivd the third Letter & Sermons, & would have communicated them to the A.Deacon, but his absence from home prevented him. That there is yet no likelyhood of having a Society of the Clergy. That two only of the City Clergy are concerned in preaching

[1] Sir J. Trelawney.

y^e^ Lecture to the Religious Societies. That two of the Country Clergy and one Preben'd of Canterbury, are pleas'd with our Designs, but are afraid of miscarrying in any attempts of that kind, for want of assistance and for y^e^ Gentry, he knows not how to recommend any. That he likes the Bedfordshire Method.

127. Mr. Price, of Wrexham, in Denbeighshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, June 20th, 1700, recommends to this Society, for their instructions, a Curate of his, designed for Pensylvania. Signifies his receipt of y^e^ third Circular Letter, & promises to answer it when he has communicated it to his Brethren.

128. Mr. Cranston, of Rygate, in Surrey, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July y^e^ 1st, 1700. That he has recd. the three Circular Letters, & imparted them to the Neighbouring Clergy, who highly approve the Design. That Mr. Hare's illness has put great stop to their present endeavours. That as soon as he can form a Society, he will wait on the Bishop with our Letters & papers. That the Papers & Books mentioned in the Second & third Letters, to be Sent are not yet come to his hands. That the way to send to him is, either by the Coach on Wednesdays & Saturdays at y^e^ Catherine Wheel, in Southwark, or by John Fisk or Henry Ware, Waggoners, on Mondays & Fridays at the Greyhound, in Southwark. He recommends for Lay Correspondents John Sellyard, Esq^r^ at his house near Betchingly, & Mr. Bromhall, near Rygate, or either of them, & adds that Mr. Sellyard is now put into Commission of the Peace. That he has dispersed near 200 Pastorall Letters & is ready to disperse any others which the Society Shall recommend. That he intends to set up a Monthly Sacram^t^ & to Catechize in y^e^ Church y^e^ Saturday even before.

129. Mr. Ibbot, of Swaffam, in Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 1st, 1700. That he had communicated y^e^ Designs of this Society to y^e^ Bp. of Norwich, who highly approv'd of them, recommended some worthy Gentlemen to us, & gave him some Rules for a Religious Society. Recommends his Son to be Tutor to some worthy Young Gentleman.

130. S^r^ George Wheeler, from Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 2nd, 1700, complains of the Pastoral Letter for want of an Imprimatur, & Saith y^e^ Bp. of Durham took notice that Dr. Bray's Apostolick Charity was defective in that respect, & desires the Society to consider this matter. That he has written to the Chancellor of York to know the A.Bishop's Sentiments, & used other precautions before he thinks it proper to communicate the Designs of this Society to the Bishop of Durham. He desires that one or two of my Lord of Canterbury's Circular Letters may be sent by the first post, w^th^out which he cannot stir one Step, & wonders that it is omitted in y^e^ Book of the Account of Societies, & if out of print recommend the reprinting at y^e^ Charge of the Society & transmitting it to all y^e^ Correspond^ts^.

131. Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, Nottinghamshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 3rd, 1700. That they have raised about 120£ towards the education of poor children & purchasing Books for y^e^ poor, & believes

this to be but part of a much greater Sum they may depend on. That Some Children are already put to School, & Some hundreds of Books ordered to be bought. That he had in April last communicated their Designs to the A.Bishop, who gave them all the encouragement they could desire, & declared his thoughts of the usefullness thereof to some Gentlemen then present, & thanked them for the Countenance & assistance they had already given us, *vide de his plura.* That the A.Deacon at his Visitation Subscribed towards the common Stock & recommended it to y^e^ Clergy of the Several Deaneries. He desires the Society to write to S^r^ Francis Molineux, Baronet, at Teversall, near Mansfeild, Nott. or to inclose a Letter, that he may wait on him w^th^ it, to Send to him by Nottingham bagg.

132. Mr. Samuel Blackwell, of Brampton, Northamptonsh. near Dinglyn, by y^e^ Harborough bag, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 8, 1700. That he recd. the Letters of the 20th & 27th past, & that he had not yet recd. the Books and papers. Thanks y^e^ Society for the Honour done him, & promises to use his best endeavours to promote their designs. That a Society is forming in his Neighbourhood, & that they had agreed to make application to the Bishop of Peterborough for his approbation. Carrier, Tho.Banks, of Great Bowden, nigh Harborough, Ram, in Smithfeild. He desires that the Books lately sent be enquired after.

133. Mr. Gilbert, of Plymouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 9th, 1700. That he had received Ten of Dr. Bray's Sermons which he promises to distribute.

134. Mr. Willett, of Stretton, in Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 10th, 1700. That some more of the Clergy had joyn'd them. That he had receiv'd y^e^ Books sent. That he will Let Collonell Colchester know y^e^ obligations the Society hath laid upon him.

135. Mr. Wesley, of Epworth, in Lincolnshire, to Mr. Justice Hook July 10th, 1700. That he acquainted the Bishop of Lincoln with the Methods of this Society, & the union of the Clergy in Several parts of the Kingdom under their Rural Deans, with which he appeard to be very well pleas'd, & Said he intended to restore Rural Deans in his own Diocess, in order to unite the Clergy under them, and that he would not discourage those who at present had formed themselves into Societies. He desires y^e^ Short Account of Societies, and what farther progress this Society hath made. That there appears a good disposition among several of the Clergy to associate. Advises that Mr. Smyth, Vicar of Gainsborough, should be writ to on that Subject, & that S^r^ Welloughby Hickman of Gainsborough might be a very usefull Correspondent and might be engaged by Mr. Smyth, that he has not yet recd. Dr. Bray's Sermons.

136. Mr. Burschough, of Totness, in Devonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 13, 1700. Gives a good Character of Mr. Knight a Justice of Peace in his Neighbourhood. Proposes that Dr. Pocock's[1] Arabic

[1] See p. 77.

Translation of Grotius de Veritate be reprinted & dispersed in Turky. That Letter be sent to the Mayors of Corporations to quicken them to y^e^ work of Reformation. That he had receiv'd Dr. Bray's Sermons.

137. Mr. Scot, of Northwood, in the Isle of Wight, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 15, 1700. That he had receiv'd y^e^ third Letter and Dr. Bray's Sermons & Communicated them. He recommends to the Society Coll. Dudley, Lieutenant General Jn^o^ Leigh, and Tho. Bowerman, Esq. Justices of y^e^ Peace, & Will. Stephens, of Burton, Esq. As to the uniting in Societies, the Clergy think it expedient that the other parts of y^e^ Diocese Should first address to y^e^ Bishop, the Isle of Wight being y^e^ Least Deanery in the whole Diocese.

138. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, Northumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 19th, 1700. That he receiv'd Two hundred of y^e^ Abstracts very ill bound, and y^t^ he finds greater difficulty in disposing of them, than he expected, promises in 5 or Six weeks to acc^t^ for them. That y^e^ project of Teaching Children after they have done work is impracticable there, promises to dispose of Dr. Bray's Sermons, desires the Society to write a Letter to S^r^ William Blacket, one of y^e^ Burgesses, &c.

139. Dr. Jo. Jephcot of Evesham, in Worcestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 20th, 1700, accepts y^e^ Correspondence w^th^ this Society.

140. Mr. Tho. Thomas, of Carmarthen, July 22nd, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. That y^e^ Magistrates of y^e^ County had, pursuant to an instrument sign'd in Quarter Sessions, put the Laws in Execution against Prophaneness, &c., and wrought a Visible Reformation in y^e^ Country. They obliged likewise y^e^ officers and some of the Cheif Inhabitants in every Parish to give Informations, & got them to sign an Instrumen^t^ to that purpose. That the Clergy in that County are Associated, have distributed many good Books, & reviv'd Catechizing. Suggests that a Method of setting up a small School in every Parish should be proposed to the Gentry.

141. A. Deacon Booth, of Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 22nd, 1700. That he recd. the third Lett^r^. That he hath no encouragem^t^ to lay before his Diocesan y^e^ papers of the Society, & proposes the Bp. of Chester as the proper man to engage him. That in his Visitation he had dispers'd near 8000 of the Smaller Books at his own Charge and could not obtain one farthing of his Diocesan towards it. That he Communicated the orders of Sessions to a Justice of Peace for Cheshire, who resolves to recommend it to the Bench at the next Sessions for that County. That he receiv'd Dr. Bray's Sermons and desires instructions for the disposall of them.

142. Dr. Nichols, of Celsey, in Sussex, to Mr. Chamberlayne, July 25th, 1700. That in pursuance of Dr. Bray's desire he had made Some advance towards composing an Exposition of y^e^ Catechism which might be printed or given away at a cheap rate, and desires to know whether the Design be acceptable to the rest of the Society. That meetings of the Clergy are forming in Several parts of the

Diocese the Bishop having recommended them in his Visitation. The third Circular Letter never came to his hands.

143. Dr. Knight, of Broughton, in Oxfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 3, 1700. Signifies the Postscript under Mr. Chamberlayne's own hand was not so particular for his information as he could wish, and therefore intreats him to supply it, complains exceedingly of the difficulties they meet with in those parts in advancing y^e^ Designs of the Society, however he is resolv'd to use all Methods, & particularly such as the Society shall Advise.

144. (Lay) Coll. Dudley, from Cowes in y^e^ Isle of Wight, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 3, 1700. That he highly approves the Design and Methods of this Society; that himself with some of the Clergy with whom he hath consented are joyntly of opinion it would be advisable some of the Members of this Society should obtain a Circular Letter from the Bishop of Winchester to encourage the Matter, & hopes there are Some Gent. of y^e^ Country who will heartily embrace y^e^ Overture. He promises his Utmost Assistance.

145. Dr. Jephcot, of Evesham, Worcestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 6, 1700, promises his Utmost Endeavours to pursue the Designs of this Society. Says that while Dr. Hopkins was living the A.Deacon and Rural Deans had a Meeting, & agreed to distribute their Meetings into several parts of the County, but since his Death little is done, nor can be till Harvest is over. That under the Influence & patronage of the A.Bishop, they hope to do Somewhat for their own & the publick good. Desires the Model of Buck, &c., the Societies Method, & a List of the Society.

146. (Lay) Mr. Lloyd, of Alty Cadno, Carmarthenshire, South Wales, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 1st, 1700. That the Clergy and Members of his Society are much encouraged by their Correspondence w^th^ this Society. Himself gratefully accepts the Correspondence, & promises his best assistance. That some of the prime Clergy are cautious ab^t^ Associating, he Supposes they delay it till the Bishop is appointed. That some cavil at the word Association, & that has retarded several Gentlemen. That they are so dispersed that they have few meetings unless accidentally, and some promise to do their Duty without entring into any Society, & those that have entred themselves do meet once a month or Six Weeks. That the proceedings at the Quarter Sessions hath had a Visible effect on the Gentry. That the Design of Schools is most likely to take effect, when the Manners of the people are reformed which they are now endeavouring. That he will from time to time give account to the Society of their success & difficulties.

147. Mr. Lisle, of Gisborough, N. East Riding, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 10th, 1700. That he had waited on the A.Bishop of York, but had no opportunity to communicate to him the Papers of this Society; and that ever since he hath languish'd under a sharp distemper. Promises very shortly to address to S^r^ William Hustler. Proposes Mr. John Gibson, of Wellburn, nigh Kirby moorside, a

magistrate & intimate of S^r Will. Hustler's as a proper person to be applied to who would cheerfully embrace y^e invitation.

148. Mr. Gilbert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 10, 1700, writes about Books to be sent him by Mr. Hawes & gives his service to Dr. Bray, if the publick Account of his return be true.

149. Mr. John Deffray, of Old Rumney, in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 15, 1700, accepts the Correspondence and Promises his utmost endeavours to promote their Designs.

150. Mr. Bedford, of Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 19, 1700, referrs to Mr. Shute for an Account of what is done at Bristol. That his proposal of erecting Schools hath met with great opposition from y^e Society of Reformation. That his brother Read will be hearty in his Correspondence, but knows not what to say concerning Mr. Cary.

151. Mr. Bowen, of Langom, Pembrokeshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 13, 1700. That they have formed themselves into a Society of Some Clergy, w^th many of the principall & leading Gentry of the Country, Chosen their Treasurer & lodged the Small Stock of money in his hands. That S^r John Philips his Interest and Example has given great influence in order to effect it.

152. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 20. That he had dispos'd of Dr. Bray's Abstracts w^ch were sent him & wants a hundred more, & that the Schoolmaster of the free School has promised to have it read in his School. He refers to Mr. Hook's report of the discourse he had with S^r William Blacket who he believes may prove a Benefactor to the Society.

153. Dr. Nichols, of Celsey in Sussex, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 27, 1700. That the Bishop of Chichester joyns heartily in the design of the Meeting of the Clergy, and the Setting up of Schools. He believes a School will Shortly be set up at Chichester, and one in his parish. That as to the Meetings of the Clergy things do not go on so smoothly as he would have them, but dispairs not of giving a good Account of that Matter in time. Proposes Mr. Robert Haslen, Mayor of Chichester, as a proper Lay Correspondent, and desires he may be written to the next week.

154. Dr. Todd, of Penrith, in Cumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 22nd, 1700. That he finds good Success of endeavours by the assistance & example of the Magistrates. Proposes that if the Society have any fund for the Maintenance of Schoolmasters they would allow some small Share to those parts. Complains of the great variety of primers among the Children in private Schools, and proposes that a stop may be put to it at the Print house. Proposes Catechising as the best Method for the Improvement of Christian Knowledge, and desires the Society to send him Some of those Catechisms which he perceives they distribute. Saith that the Northern parts generally are more orderly and conformable, & as well instructed in Religion as any Parts of the Kingdom.

155. Mr. Zach. Taylor, of Wigan, in Cheshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 27, 1700, accepts the Correspondence.

156. Mr. Blackwell, of Brampton, Northamptonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 2, 1700. That the Bishop of Peterborough having been addressed by some of his Clergy, has readily given them leave to meet durante beneplacito, and approv'd the Articles offered to him. He promises to contribute Yearly towards y^e^ Design of this Society.

157. Mr. John Griffith, of Whitewaltham, in Barkshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, September 3, 1700. That the Bishop approved very much of the Design of this Society, & Said when he came to London he would enter himself and contribute towards it, and require him in his name to recommend it to his Brethren, desires the Society would write to some other Clergyman to Assist him in the work, and to desire my Lord of Sarum to do it; and hopes thereby, & with the Assistance of Mr. Richards (who has promised his concurrence) to effect Something to purpose. He desires the Several Papers of the Society.

158. A.Deacon Booth, of Eassington, Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 6, 1700. Heartily approves Dr. Bray's reasons of his return as satisfactory, and that he may more effectually serve that Design desires the Society to draw up a Letter, w^ch^ he may send to his Clergy, to procure their Charity and that of the Gentry; & Some more of Dr. Bray's Sermons. That he had taken particular care to see the Schoolmasters perform their Duty, and discovered several unqualifyed persons that pretended to teach School; and desires the Gentlemen of the Law would direct him to proceed against them as a civil Magistrate, as also how he may proceed upon the Statute of Twenty Pounds ℔ Month against Such prophaners of the Lord's day as the twelve pence[1] ℔ Sunday will not reform. He proposes whether it would not be a proper Method to collect out of the Quaker's own Books, their dangerous Principles both to Church and State, and likewise their blasphemous expressions against the Holy Trinity, our Blessed Saviour & the Holy Ghost; and would have this made the foundation of an Address to be presented to the Parliament from all the Counties of England.

159. Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, Lancashire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sep. 6, 1700. That about two Years since a Monthly Lecture was set up by the Approbation of the Bishop under his hand and zeal, to Suppress Prophaness, and Immorality, that there were Seldom present less than twenty Clergymen & sometimes Thirty. That they have an Annual Meeting of the whole A.Deaconry on y^e^ first Tuesday in June, & make a Collection for the Widdows, Children, &c. of the Deceas'd Brethren, which he apprehends may at present interfere w^th^ the design of forming Schools. Proposes to the Society to send the Address to those of the Roman Communion, &c., to the chief Papist families in England.

160. Mr. Bourne & Mr. Leith, of Bedford, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 7th, 1700. Accept the Correspondence.

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[1] An Act of Parliament, levying one shilling on every person absent from church on Sundays, was passed in the third of James I. (1606).

161. Dr. Wilson, Bishop of Man, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Aug. 20, 1700, writes that he has established a Monthly Lecture where all the Clergy of his Diocess meet and preach in their Turns, & that he will give account of the difficulties he meets with, the Spiritual wants they Labour under & the helps he has already receiv'd for promoting Xtian Knowledge, so soon as he has received y^e^ necessary directions promised him by the Society. That he cheerfully concurrs with our proposals, & promises to pray for us; to imitate our good designs as far as the condition and necessities of his Place will allow; and to contribute by his purse, labour, and interest according to his circumstances.

162. Mr. Welshman, of Lapworth, in Warwickshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 11, 1700, recommends the Lord Digby for a Correspondent for Warwickshire, and believes a Letter to Mr. Colmore, of Warwick, might put a life to a Design of erecting a Society for Reformation at Warwick lately endeavoured, but dropt again. He desires to be recommended to a Bookseller who would undertake the Impression of two Sermons lately preached at Bedford Assizes, or to know the Charges of the Impression, he hath recd. Dr. Bray's Letter but not the Papers.

163. S^r^ George Wheeler to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 14, 1700. That he had layd before the Bishop the printed Accounts and papers, but has not yet thought it meet to press the Matter of the Societies' Affairs to him, adding, However I hope the effect of our desires will proceed well nigh to accomplish what in Charity is desired if not in the Methods others take. That both the A.Deacons are well inclined, especially Durham, and that a Letter to the Arch Deacon of Northumberland would be well receiv'd, Dr. Morton by Name. That great Charites are done by y^e^ Prebendaries, and believes Charitable Schools will be propagated. Many worthy things are done in Northumberland in a Sociable Manner by the Clergy; and in Newcastle by y^e^ Magistrates and Clergy; & others.

164. Mr. Gilbert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 14 Sept. renews his desires of a Letter and the Xtians dayly Devotion printed for Mr. Hawes. He gives hopes of Success to his Endeavors to promote the Designs of the Society.

165. Mr. Chandler and Mr. Baker, of Lichfeild, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 16, 1700, accept the Correspondence and promise their utmost endeavours. That they are Soliciting Schools for poor Children in that City, and are in good hopes to obtain them. That they know not how they can be instrumental to the propagation of Religion in the Plantations, &c.

166. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, in Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 23, 1700. Advises the Society to consider how to put in Execution the Proposals of Arch Deacon Booth in his Letter No. 158. In order to do it, Suggests the form of a Postscript to be added to the next Letter to the Correspondents, wishes it may be sent und^r^ different hands and Seals for fear of falling into the Quakers hands. Advises

arther that Dr. Willis' Book be sent to other of y^e^ Correspondents where Papists abound, and that an Account of their Numbers be sent to the Society by the respective Correspondents.

167. Mr. Gilbert, of Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 23, 1700, writes, That Mr. Young declines the Correspondence. That he had recd. a bundle of Broad Sheets from an unknown hand, & believes it will do much good. That the last week he baptized a Gentlewoman a Convert from Quakerism.

168. Mr. King from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 27, 1700. That he will Shortly order his arrears to be paid; desires Several papers mentioned in his Letter and a Copy of the Journal from Aug. 1st.

169. Dr. Edm. Entwistle, from Chester, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 28, 1700. Accepts the Correspondence, & desires a List of the Members of the Society.

170. Mr. Smith, of Kimbolton, Huntingtonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 28. That he received y^e^ Packets, and that Dr. Bray's reasons are very Satisfactory. That the Clergy of his Neighbourhood continue to meet &c. Proposes Mr. Mapletoft, of Huntingdon as the fittest person to promote the Design, and him to be engaged by Dr. Mapletoft. He recommends Dr. Hutchinson of S^t^ Edmundsbury as well affected; & adds that he has been instrumental to perswade Some of the Clergy to meet at Chipping Ongar.

171. Mr. Deffray, from Old Romney, in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 29, 1700, intimates his readiness to give a large Account of the beginning & Progress of a Religious Society of Young Men, he has been instrumental to raise in those parts; desires the papers of the Society, and directs how they may be conveyed.

172. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, in Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 30, 1700. Advises to Cultivate the Correspondence of Mr. Willett, Says that Mr. Smith of Kimbolton will endeavour to engage his Father in Law Dr. Knighton the Sub-Dean of Lincoln. That Mr. Kirkwood will attempt to bring Mr. Brown, of Arlesey, into the Correspondence. Advises to engage the L^d^ Galway and Mr. Dykvelt into y^e^ Project of Mr. De Beringhen; earnestly recommends again the Securing the A.Deacons into the Interest of the Society; asks after A.Deacon Yeate. Says that there are objections made against Broad Sheets of Mr. Keith, as being Sometimes too obscure &c.

173. Mr. Ellison, of Newcastle, Northumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Sept. 20th, 1700. Sent a Bill for Ten Pounds for Two hundred of Dr. Bray's Abstracts, intimates that it had been better if the Pastoral Letter had been at first printed in the same Volume with the Daily Devotion. That S^r^ William Blacket had receiv'd both the Letters from the Society, and supposes he has given an Answer. That he seems unwilling to engage till he knows the persons and their Laws; but y^t^ in the main he may be vsefull to the Society, tho not a Member, by pursuing the same Charitable Designs.

174. Mr. Robert Wynne, from Carnarvon, Carnarvonshire, to Mr.

Chamberlayne, October 3d, 1700. That he had received ye Letters and Papers, with Dr. Bray's Letter. That the Bishop promises to lay before his Clergy, in his Visitation, the Charitable & pious Designs of the Society, & the Necessity of Benefactions towards promoting the same. That he will return a just Account of transactions so far as he shall attend his Lordship. Complains of the poverty of the Clergy in those parts. He has sent five pounds as his Benefaction. That he will desire my Lord of Bangor to recommend Lay persons to uphold the Correspondence; advises that Letters be written to the Revd Mr. John Williams, Rector of Llanbedrock, in Llyn, Carnarvonshire, as what would be great ease to the Dean & himself.

175. Mr. Robert Thomlinson, of Newcastle, in Northumberland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 4, 1700. Accepts the Correspondence, is using his best endeavours to raise a Charity School in that Town, & hopes to Succeed therein; refers to Mr. Hook, to whom he marked out what movements are most proper to be employed in promoting Charity and good works there. Desires Mr. Ellison may not yet be acquainted with what he is yet doing, and that a dozen of the printed Sheets about ye Charity Schools be Sent him by the Newcastle Carrier.

176. Mr. Taylor, from Wigan, in Lancashire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 4, 1700. Recd. the Books and Papers & returns thanks to the Society for the Same, has dispos'd of the Broad Sheet in the Publick Houses of ye Neighbouring Towns, to be Set up in Frames; is sending the Address to the Popish Gentry, wth a Letter, a Copy whereof he sends enclosed. Dr. Bray's Sermons delivered to ye Clergy to lend the Gentry in their Parishes, & the Account of Societies to the Members of the Society begun in yt Town. For ye Pastoral he will bind it up with other pieces of ye same volume, & distribute it among the poor.

177. Coll. Woodhouse, from East Lexham, Norfolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 4, 1700. That eight or nine of the Clergy had met at his House, & the result was that each of them should endeavour to form Societies in yr resp'tive Neighbrhood.

178. Mr. Blackwell to Mr. Chamberlayne. Memorandum. That this Letter was lent to, and lost by, Dr. Bray before it was abstracted.

179. Mr. Hugh Mapletoft, from Huntingdon, Huntingtonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Octr 8, 1700. Accepts of the Correspondence, & writes, That he has already dispersed the Christian Monitor, Letter from ye Norfolk Minister, & Pastoral Letter.

180. Dr. Fran. Hutchinson, from Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, October 9th, 1700. Promises his concurrence as far He can wth that imperfect knowledge he has of the Rules of the Society. Writes that his Labours hitherto have cheifly Succeeded among the better and Middle Sort of Persons. That those who are very high are above Law and discipline & despise instruction, and yt the poor are ignorant, barbarous, and without Principles, owing to the Oppression and Misery they undergo. That he began a Course of

Catechising at Five in the Evening on Sundays, to w^ch^ great number of the better sort came, of the poor few or none. That he has given them Catechisms without Success, because they can not read. That he had put out about forty Children to School w^th^ the help of some Charitable Persons with little effect, which made some withdraw their contributions. That his greatest expectations are from those Projects on foot for setting the poor on work; whereby they are put into condition of living comfortably, Discipline and Teaching may be contrived to fall in with the same Methods.

181. Mr. King, from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 7, 1700. Proposes "whether it would not be proper, before the Society admitt "any Persons into their Correspondence to consult with those who are "already Correspondents for the County wherein the Person proposed "lives?" it being fit that those who are to promote the designs of the Society in the Same Place Should either know or Approve of one another. Vide de his plura. He approves of the design of enlarging the Number of Correspondents and recommends Mr. Drake, Minister, of Exeter.

182. A.Deacon Booth, from Easington, Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, October 8th, 1700. That he recd. a parcel from the Society, and is well pleas'd with the Sheet against the Quakers & desires Two hundred of them, and adds that he will communicate them to the Justices of the Peace. He desires an Answer to his Last Letter, Some Papists & Quakers that teach School having set him at defiance.

183. (Lay) Mr. John Gibson, of Welburn, Yorkshire to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 6, 1700. That he had recev'd a Letter from y^e^ Society by Mr. Lisle, and accepts the Correspondence. And hopes that by the Advice and Influence of this Society, the Clergy may be brought to practice Catechism & Daily Prayers, which the A.Bishop had enjoyned at his visitation, & Printed Papers since directed to his Arch Deacons direct to Mr. Hurst's at York.

184. Dr. Hutchinson, from Bury S^t^ Edmunds, Suffolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 12th, 1700. Acknowledges the receipt of the Second Letter, and renews the Assurances of his hearty concurrence (Carr. at y^e^ Bull in Bpsgate).

185. Mr. Mapletoft, from Huntingdon, Huntingtonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, October 12, 1700. Signifies his fears that few of the Clergy will be prevailed with to joyn with them. That about a Year Since that many had declared against it, most were cold in it, & but one man signified his readiness to joyn in it, that he has as little reason of hopes to prevail with the Magistrates, that he could willingly resign the part allotted him to some Person of a temper more active, but however looking on the Application of the Society as a Providential Call, he will comply & desires their directions and Papers. (Carrier, Thomas Foster at the Red Lion, in Aldersgate Street.)

186. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, in Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 14th, 1700. Reminds the Society of Sending particular Answers to the Correspondents as Occasion offers, as a Specimen sends

an Answer to Mr. Deffray, and a Postscript to Mr. Gilbert relating to Mr. Young of Plimouth. Desires to be employed by them that way. Says that he has prepared Mr. Salmon, of Mepsall, for the Correspondency, and wishes that Some of the Society would do the like to Mr. Brown, of Arlesey, formerly Parliam[t] man for Bedfordshire.

187. Mr. Gilbert, from Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 15, 1700. Gives a Character of Mr. Neile and leaves it to the Society to judge whether he be qualified for their Designs. Saith he hath proposed the Correspondence to him, and that he embraced it. That he hath great esteem of Dr. Bray, who would do well to write to him, if the Society make use of him.

188. Mr. Ellison, from Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 15th, 1700. The contents of his Letter cheifly concern Dr. Bray's Abstracts and the Pastoral Letter, & a Bill he had before sent of Ten Pounds. See the Letter at large. He concludes, intimating some hopes he hath of Subscriptions for a Charity School.

189. Mr. A.Deacon Entwistle, from Crislestone, near Chester, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 16, 1700. Gives Acc[t] of Several Meetings and Lectures of the Clergy in Cheshire & Lancashire, & of the Several sums collected at their general Meeting at Warington for poor Clergymen's Widows & Children, &c., A[o] 97, 98, 99, 700, in the whole amounting unto £245. 15s. That they find it very difficult to get the Magistrates & Gentry to their Meetings. He desir'd the Papers designed for him, & directs how to send to him.

190. Mr. Gilbert, from Plimouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 18, 1700, complains of great animosities between y[e] Churchmen under the influence of Major Gen[rl] Trelawny, and the Dissenters under y[e] influence of the Recorder, S[r] Francis Drake.

191. Coll. Dudley, from Cowes, Isle of Wight, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 19, 1700. Signifies y[t] Six of the principal Clergy had met at Mr. Shergolds and that they had appointed Mr. Scot to write to the Society w[th] his concurrence.

192. Mr. Scot from Northwood, Isle of Wight, to Mr. Chamberlayne, October 21, 1700. That Coll. Dudley & some Clergy had met & unanimously agreed to concur with the Society in the prosecution of their pious designs. To make a particular enquiry into the Immoralities &c., in their Several Distrcts agst the Next Meeting, & to apply themselves to the Civil Magistrates for Assistance. Intimates withall that they are afraid of being accused of Novelty, not hearing of any Presidents of such meetings in any other parts of the Diocese, and desire the Society to endeavour that they may be formed elsewhere. Likewise having not the permission of the Ordinary, they object the 73 Canon agst. the private Meetings of the Clergy ; but to obviate it, would willingly apply to the Bishop, only live in expectation of having some others lead y[e] way. By way of Postscript Coll. Dudley Signifies his approbation.

193. Dr. Hutchinson, from Bury S[t] Edmunds, Oct. 22, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. That there are many Gentlemen well disposed to

any good work, whom he names & particularly recommends Mr. Holland as a proper Correspondent. That he intends to send the sheet to the Quakers with an Indorsem[t] mentioned in his Letter. That he will take the first opportunity of acquainting the Bishop w[th] the Designs & Methods of the Society.

194. Mr. George Drake, from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 23, 1700. Accepts the Correspondence.

195. Mr. George Wheeler, from Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 22, '700, writes that Dr. Morton had already recommended the Designs of this Society to his Jurisdiction as he had Acco[t] of them by the Vicar of Newcastle, and that he will continue to do so on all future Occasions, as he shall receive Notices from Mr. Ellis. That he declines a personal Correspondence by reason of his Age. That Mr. Keith's Sheet is liked well at Durham, & Numbers will be sent for.

196. Mr. Blackwell, of Brampton, Northamptonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 26, 1700. That he had receiv'd the first parcel of Books sent him, and desires to know suddenly whether he may dispose of them ; the Clergy being to meet at his house according to Agreement lately made of meeting at each others houses Monthly.

197. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 28, 1700. Owns his Satisfaction that his Services are so Acceptable to the Society, & asks whether he may make use of the Lord Guilford's Name to the Correspondents.

198. Mr. David Heart, from Portsmouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 29, 1700. That sometime since he had endeav[d] to furnish the Youth with Bishop Williams Exposition. That a Society for Reformation of Manners was erected there consisting of the Mayor, Justices of Peace, Aldermen, &c., and another Society consisting of Tradesmen, Twenty three in Number, which had produced very good effect. That the Minister had discouraged this undertaking, & misrepresented himself to the Bishop of Winchester, which gave him occasion to clear himself of all imputations, & withall y[e] Societies appeared worthy of y[e] Bishop's approbation. In fine, He promises his hearty concurrence with this Society.

199. Mr. Burscough, from Totness, Devonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 29, 1700. That the Prints sent him are very acceptable especially Dr. Bray's Letter. That he hath Ten Pounds for the Plantations, Five Pounds given by himself & Five Pounds by Humfrey Smith, Vicar of Dartmouth.

200. Mr. Taylor, from Wigan, Lancashire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Oct. 29, 1700. That he received more Books to be dispersed among the Papist Recusants, & hopes they may turn to good Account. That he is not yet so well as to attend the Monthly Meetings in order to propose the Bedfordshire Methods which he hopes to have in some measure put in execution.

201. Mr. Drake, from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 6, 1700. That he finds a good inclination in several both of the Clergy & Laity

to promote the Designs of the Society; which would not want its due effect, could the Bishop be induced to favour them, a thing at present not to be expected nor asked. However he will do his endeavour in conjunction with Mr. King. That Dr. Bray's Letter will be of use, and desires a quaintity of them.

202. (Lay) Mr. William Younge, from Wrexham, Flintshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 8, 1700. Accepts the Correspondence and promises to observe y^e^ directions of the Society. Speaking of the corruptions of the Age, and their Remedies, Saith, discipline must be restored, Catechising Seriously applied to, & the Magistrate be vigorous & resolvd in punishing vice. That in Wales there is great want of Schools, and y^t^ in Wrexham some Gentlemen have promised to assist with their Purses, & hopes others will follow y^e^ Example.

203. Mr. Taylor, from Wigan, in Lancashire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 8, 1700. That the Letter Sent with y^e^ last parcel of Books never came to his hands. That he wonders much at Mr. Styth and Mr. Atherton's silence. That he designs to put in practice y^e^ Method y^e^ Society Suggested of Teaching Servants to read at nights, desires that the Cheshire Clergy may act as a Branch of y^e^ Corporation of Clergymen's Sons, & that application may be made to the Arch-Bishop of Canterbury in that behalf.

204. Mr. Bradshaw, from Namptwich, Cheshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 9, 1700. That my L^d^ of Chester with the Aldermen have lately framed themselves into a Society for punishing of Immorality, &c. That he knows not whom to recommend for a Lay Correspondent, complains of the difficulties in suppressing vice, because the Magistrates will not take private informations; & urge that till y^e^ Ecclesiastial Laws are in force, all the effect of their Punishment wld. be to drive people to the Dissenters, who he says are grown very insolent, especially the Anabaptists. That he cannot yet obtain a Charity School, but out of his own Slender & precarious income, pays for y^e^ instruction of half a dozen. That vice there is very rife and Publick, and the Lord's Day Sadly neglected.

205. Mr. Gibson, from Wellburn, North Riding, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 10th, 1700, fears the miscarriage of his last Letter, having no acco^t^ of the receipt of it, refers to Mr. Aylmer for the conveyance of his Papers. Desires to receive a Vindication of Dr. Bray in relation to y^e^ promise he made to y^e^ Clergy of finishing his Catecheticall Lectures.

206. Mr. Frank, of Cranfeild, Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 11, 1700, desires that Mr. Hawes be directed to send no more Pastoral Letters to the Correspondents without their Order, nor to exceed the Number they send for. Advises that Mr. Blackwell have Leave to dispose of the double Packet sent him, &c. Advises y^t^ Short and Particular Answers be sent to all the Correspondents pro Re Natâ, for want of w^ch^ our Design (as well our Letters) remains unanswerd, &c., vid. the Letter: suggests Several proper Heads for such a sort of Letter, & in order to renew a Correspondence particularly to make

Enquiry about the State of Religion in the Several Counties and that such a Letter Mutatis Mutandis will serve for y^e^ Lay as well as the Clergy Correspondents. Hints y^t^ those Members that contribute least with their Purses should bear the greatest part of the Fatigue. Advises that the Secretary should weekly acquaint the Society with y^e^ Substance of Letters y^t^ require an Answer which (if the Letters be of less Moment) may immediately be returned by the Secretary by vertue of some general Instructions, or otherwise that particular L'res may be referr'd to particular Gentlemen, whose rough Draughts shall be first communicated to the Committee, & lastly layd before the Society. Advises farther that as the Society increases in number, the Heads of their Debates may be prepard & digested by Special Committees. Advises farther that all the Letters sent in the name of y^e^ Society be short without Fringing or Facing which is inconsistent with the Honour of the Society. Advises that Gentlemen should divide the Burden of Answering Letters, &c., as equally as they can amongst them, which would make it easie to all. And lastly offers his own and Mr. Wotton's Service in y^t^ Matter.

207. A.Deacon Entwistle, from Crisleton, near Chester, Nov. 15, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. That the Books are come safe to his hands. That the Call to y^e^ Quakers will be very Seasonable, that Sect haveing much encreased of late in those parts. That the Bp. has dispers'd great Numb^rs^ of Bugg's small peices. He answers not y^e^ enquiries about S^t^ Winifreds Well, the season of frequenting the Water being over. That in y^e^ Inn called the Star, there is a Popish Chappel well adornd, &c. That when the next Season for the water comes, he will desire y^e^ Advice of the Society in that Affair, &c. That they have few Country Parishes w^ch^ have not a Free School, tho' there is a deplorable defect in y^e^ Managem^t^ thereof: the Poor cannot spare there Children from Work, & many forget what they have Learnt. However y^t^ all ranks of psons seem disposed to give their Children better Education then formerly. That y^e^ Bishop is erecting a Charity School in Chester. Another is lately founded in y^e^ Country by Tho. Leigh, of Darnel, Esq. A Lending Library is erected at Namptwich, w^ch^ is likely to meet w^th^ tollerable Success; & that such a design would be of an unspeakable advantage in the A.Deaconry of Richmond.

208. Mr. John Braddock, from Canterbury, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 15, 1700. Accepts y^e^ Correspondence.

209. Mr. Heart, from Portsmouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 22nd, 1700. That at present He is altogether uncapable of bringing Societies in Esteem among the Neighbouring Clergy, being a stranger, &c. That Mr. Hunt, Rector of Stoak, is the most prop^r^ Person to promote y^t^ design, & that he erected a Society in his Parish, in January last to whom he preaches a Monthly Sermon. He proposes that a Letter be sent him.

210. (Vid. N°. 256.) Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 22, 1700, sends enclosed a Letter from Mr. Atherton to him:

and desires the Society to give him Instructions how to answer it, and desires to know whether it may not be proper for Mr. Bridges to write to Mr. Styth. Says that he has agreed with their Usher to teach Servants to Read in the Evenings, and that there is a prospect of good Success therein. That by distributing some good Books in his Parish, he hopes to Create a Fund for the dispersing of more ; as an Instance of which, he says from 100 which he sent for in the last month, he now shall advance to double y^e^ Number.

211. Mr. Gibson, from Welburn, North Riding, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Nov. 27, 1700. That he has not recd. the Packet, & desires y^t^ Enquiry may be made concerning it. He desires a sight of Dr. Bray's Printed Letter. Complains of y^e^ Neglect of the Clergy as to Publick Prayers and Catechising, notwithstanding the A.Bp.'s visitation Charge & other Monitions.

212. Mr. Drake, from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, December 2^d^, 1700. That he recd. y^e^ Packet. That y^e^ Bp. of Exeter continues utterly averse, recommends Dr. Osmund, a Physitian of y^t^ City, for a Correspondent.

213. Dr. Hutchinson, from Bury S^t^ Edmunds, Suffolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 2^d^, 1700, desires a Letter from Dr. Bray, the first thing offer'd at will be a Collection for his Libraries. That the Magistrates of the Town have the Matter of the Poor under Consideration, & think to lay something before their Members. That he has put into their Hands y^e^ Bristol Case, & Judge Hale's Tract touching provision for y^e^ Poor. That Mr. Holland is as Hearty as the Society can desire him.

214. Mr. Thomas Salmon, from Mepsall, Bedfordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 2^d^, 1700. Writes that he can give no Assistance in the three Branches proposed. That in his own Parish he has already answerd y^e^ Design of Schools, but can not expect it should be generally done in Country Parishes. That he knows some Parliam^t^ Men w^ch^ he believes will Endeavour to get a Clause that y^e^ Overseers may[1] for teaching poor Children to read & work. That as to y^e^ Plantations our necessities confine our Charity at home. That he has contributed to the Publick Library at Bedford, and will endeavour to promote it with others. He intimates that it is under y^e^ consideration of y^e^ Bishops to make y^e^ Clergy more usefull in Answering the end of their Calling, according to the Antient constitution of our Church. He declines being a Member of the Society, but in the P. S. directs how any Letter may be Conveyed to him, (viz^t^) To Mr. Foskets, at Hitchin, in Herefordshire.

215. Mr. Tho. Tod, from Port Royal, in Jamaica, October 11, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. That on receipt of a Lett^r^ from him he had alterd his Resolution of coming for England, & is removed to the Rectory of S^t^ Thomas in the Vale ; he designs to continue his abode in the Island. Expresses great approbation of y^e^ Designs & Methods of

[1] A blank in MS. here.

this Society in Propagating Xtian Knowledge. Promises a larger Account of the Success of their Endeavours after their next Meeting.

216. Mr. Phil. Bennet, from Port Royal, In Jamaica, Oct. 12, 1700. That he had Received both the Secretaries Letters. Thanks the Society for admitting him a Member, and promises his utmost Endeavours to promote their pious Designs. That he had Summon'd all his Clergy who had Agreed on certain Articles[1] which he sends enclosed ; and that the Governor highly approved the Meeting and the Result of it. That the Governor had given 5 Pistols which with other Sums he had sent to Mr. Aylmer, for Purchasing small Books. Intimates Dr. Bray's Mistake in Equalifying the number of Churches to that of Parishes. And desires a Catalogue of the Books Sent for a Library at Port Royal; he having seen divers scattered in the Country, Marked for that Library, which he will use his Endeavor to recover ; the Governor and the Chief Justice having promised to Assist him.

217. Mr. Blackwell, of Brampton, Northamptonshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 5, 1700. That he had communicated to the Clergy, at their Meeting, the Acco[t] of the Cheshire Preachers, Several of whom are willing to join in the like Method. That Dr. Bray's Papers were recd. with a Warm Sense of the Blessing of God in raising up so worthy an Instrument of his Glory ; & that he will Cheerfully promote a farther Supply of Missionaries, whenever y[e] Bishop shall lay it before his Clergy.

218. Mr. Deffray, from Old Romney, Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 6, 1700. That it will be difficult to raise Societies of y[e] Clergy in those parts, many being averse. That a foundation of one is laid at Tenterden, which he hopes to get improved. That he has encouraged his own People to come to him in the evenings & propose their doubts. That he will Sollicit contributions to y[e] Plantations, and cast in his own mite, hopes to obtain a Society for Reformation in New Romney, if Mr. Richard Baker could be prevailed w[th] to espouse it, and in

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[1] Jamaica, at Spanish Town, Aug. 28th, 1700.

1. It is agreed upon, That the Clergy of this Island doe meet at Spanish Towne, at the Church, the first day of each grand Court, to consult about such methods as may be most proper for carrying on a Generall Reformation of Manners.

2. That nothing be agreed on by us, but what is agreeable to the Canons of the Church of England, and what shall be proposed and directed to us, from time to time by the Hono[ble] Society (in England) for propagating Christian Knowledge.

3. It is agreed upon, That every Minister in his respective parish shall use his best endeavours to perswade those of his parish, who are best of ability to contribute to the provideing all the poor people of his parish with Christian Monitors and Familiar Guides, and to report the success of his Endeavours at next meeting.

order thereto, proposes him to the Society as a Correspondt, & that, if he can prevail at home, he hopes to ꝑmote another Society at Lidd.

219. Mr. Drake, from Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 7, 1700, that Dr. Osmund hath given five pounds towards ye Plantations, and that he has hopes of other Benefactions. That there seems an inclination to enter into Societies; & notwthstanding ye Bishop is averse, one or two are formed near yt City, which he intimates want to be regulated. That in ye north of the County he has communicated the Religious Designs on foot, concludes with concern that he can only cast a Mite into the Treasury.

220. Mr. Taylor, from Wigan, Cheshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 6, '700. Sends enclosed ye Combination of the Clergy in Lancashire. Signifies that they first moved the Design to ye Bishop, that the Honble Mr. Finch opened the Lecture and that ye North of Lancashire this year entred on ye Same Design. That there have been Sometimes 40 Clergymen present, besides the Gentry who dined with them. A Society is begun at Wigan.

221. Mr. Fenwick, of Hallaton, Leicestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 6, 1700. Promises his Utmost Endeavours to ꝑmote ye Designs of this Society. Writes that he had made Application to ye Bishop of Lincoln, who very much approved and countenanced their Meetings, & advised so to Manage them as not to give offence to the Neighbouring Clergy. That about 12 of them meet at one anothrs houses by turns. That they have concluded to propose a Contribution to the Plantations at the next Visitation. He promises to contribute two pounds ꝑ ann. Thanks the Society for ye Papers sent him, and has endeavoured to make ye best vse of them, & will observe all farther Orders; concludes wth an intima'on of his intentions to Submit to the Judgement of ye Honble Society, a discourse he designs to print for the vse of his Parish.

222. (Lay) Mr. John Laugarne, from St Brides, Pembrokeshire to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 7, 1700. That a Society is begun in that County, of Magistrates, Clergy, &c. Sr John Philipps having been the first Mover, & that they have disposed of Some good Books among ye Poor, a Charity continued in that County for Some Years, and that they have some hopes of doing good. That the County will hardly afford two Societies; and at prsent is very much divided about Members for ye ensuing Parliamt. That 9 Gentlemen & 8 Clergy are already united and more have promised.

223. Mr. Cranston, of Rygate, Surrey, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 13, 1700, having recd. the Printed Lists of the Cheshire Divines, wishes their Example may be followed thro'out ye Nation; & that application might be made to the Bishop of Winton for that purpose by some eminent members of ye Society. Writes that Mr. Keith's Broad Sheets promised him together with the Account of Societies are not come to his hands. That he intends to buy hundred of ye 2d part of ye Pastoral Lre. John Fitt, Waggoner, at the Greyhound, Southwark.

224. Mr. Griffyth, from White-Waltham, near Maiden-head, Barkshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 20, 1700. Writes, That he hath procured a Meeting of 13 Clergymen who have Subscribed an Association, the Form whereof is as follows :—

"Whereas the Society which has form'd itself in the Cities of "London & Westminster for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, "hath desired the Concurrence of the Clergy of Berks to Assist in "carrying on the great Design they are engaged in, the three Branches "whereof are

"1. The Education of Poor Children,

"2. The Spreading Christianity in the Plantations, &

"3. The Reclaiming of those amongst us, who entertain Opinion inconsistent w^th^ the Fundamentals of our Holy Religion :

"We whose Names are underwritten, out of a true Zeal for the "Honor of God, & the Salvation of the Souls of our poor Brethren, "and out of a just Concern for the true Interest of that truly Primitive "and Apostolical Church whereof we are Members ; as also in "Obedience to our most Reverend Metropolitan's Circular Letter, and "the Right Reverend our own Diocesan's repeated Desire and Re-"commendation ; do in compliance with the reasonable Request of "the said Society, hereby Associate our Selves, to Advise, Consult, "and Assist each other in Prosecution of the Ends aforementioned by "such Rules as shall be agreed on by us according to the Laws of the "Land & Canons of the Church. In Witness whereof we have Sub-"scrib'd our hands this 16th day of December, 1700." Subscrib'd by 13 Clergymen, and he hopes by the 3^d^ of February the day of their Meeting, to have the Number doubled. He intimates that this is more than the Bishop could obtain in above 11 years. Adds that he has given an account to the Bishop, and beg'd his farther Instructions, and has Recommended to him a Gentleman for a Correspondent with this Society, and, if the Bishop approve', will acquaint the Society therewith. The Clergy at their Meeting agreed to bring in a Notitia of their Respective Parishes, at least of the poor Children ; and to Subscribe towards their Education for one Year, and then to Solicit the Charity of others. He recd. y^e^ Packet & Books.

225. Mr. Frank, from Cranfield, Bedfordshire, Dec. 23, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. By the Direction of Mr. Ellis, propose's Mr. William Pearson, Arch-Deacon of Nottingham for an Additional Correspondent, and accounts for his Endeavors in Relation to Mr. Brown of Arlsey.

226. Mr. Bedford, from Bristol, Dec. 24, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Send's an Account of the Method the Clergy have taken in that City, to Preach in their Turns every Lord's-Day against Immorality and Prophaneness, and that the Bishop is highly pleased with it. Desire's the Society to make application to the Bishop, that the same Method may be continued. Dr. Read and Mr. Cary have Excused themselves from Entring into the Correspondency ; instead of whom he Recommends S^r^ John Duddlestone who is desirous of the Honor. That Mr. Keith had no Success there. That the Design of Schools suc-

ceeds well, Subscriptions being rais'd sufficient for the whole Number of poor Children, except in three Parishes who have promised to take care of their own Poor. He suggests the Reason why that part of the Instrument relating to the Catechism hath been omitted, and what Method S^r John Duddlestone tells him will be used to make amends for it. That he will account for what can be done in Relation to the Plantations. At present the Schools take up their whole Thoughts. In the Close he promises to send his Thoughts in relation to the Reducing of the Quakers to the Communion of the Church ; and hope's to be in London this next Summer.

227. Mr. Braddock, from Canterbury, Dec. 23, 1700, to Mr. Chamberlayne. That he has long endeavoured to form a Society of Clergymen without effect ; a Division begun by [Right Rev. Samuel] Parker Bishop of Oxford, being not yet thoroughly Compos'd. Intimates the great Hardships the Poor lie under, thro' the decay of the Weaving Trade ; and consequently the great Need of a public Charity, for the Education of the Youth.

228. Mr. Fenwick, of Hallaton, in Leicestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Dec. 21, 1700. Gives an Account of the Sermon which he Preach'd to his own Parishioners upon the Occasion of the Proclamation against Vice and Immorality. Submitt's it to the Judgement of the Society ; and if it meet's with their Approbation ; Appoints the Booksellers that are to Print it. One End of his Publishing this (he says) is that he may present his Parish with something of his own, as well as with those small Tracts call'd the Christian Monitor, Pastoral Letter, and some others ; which he has Distributed Gratis himself ; or Recommended to such as were Charitably disposed.

229. Mr. Bedford, of Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 8 Jan. 1700–1. Imparts his Thoughts about bringing over the Quakers, and says, that the Reason of Mr. Keith's unsuccessfulness is, because the Clergy do not pursue the Victory in his Absence. Wishe's that the Arch Bishop was apply'd to, to enjoyn the Clergy to Confer with the Quakers, as he had done already about the Papists. Suggests several Rules to that Purpose, which see in the Letter at large. Gives his Reasons why such a Method might probably succeed, viz. 1. Because it has succeeded in the Plantations. 2. Because some of the chief Quakers are now grown more Sociable, &c. 3. Because Will. Penn[1] is absent, & 4. Because of the great Divisions amongst them.

Says that S^r John Duddleston ha's Received the Societies Letter, and laid it before the Clergy & the Society for Reformation, which last were mightily affected with it. They are so taken up with Collections for Schools, that little is to be expected from thence, he says, towards the Designs in America, &c. Lastly complains of the great Ignorance

[1] Founder of the province of Pennsylvania 1681. Born in London 1644, became an itinerant preacher 1668, for which he was sent to the Tower, where he wrote "No Cross, no Crown." Died at his seat in Berkshire 1718.

& Atheism in Wales, & of the Contempt of the Clergy, occasion'd by the small Provision for them, and Recommend's it to the Consideration of the Society.

230. Mr. de Beringhen, of the Hague, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 11 January, N.S., 1701. Thanks the Society for their Letter to him, & promise's to attempt the Raising amongst the Dutch such a kind of Society as ours. Says that he & 5 more French Refugees, viz[t] Messieurs Jurieu & Benoist, Ministers of Roterdam & Delft, the Marquis de Pernis, Mr. Chernilles, & Mr. d'Hervart, Brother to our Kings Envoy in Switzerland, ever since the year '93 were joyn'd in a Society for carrying on the like Designs. That upon the account of their being strangers & having lost their Estates in France, they cannot answer the Intentions of the Society, but they will Sollicit the same amongst the Dutch, &c. Gives an account and a very advantagious Character of a Portugese, that has lately abandon'd the Romish Communion, wherein he was a Professor of Divinity at the University of Coimbra, his name is Peter Fernandez, and Son, as he Says, to a late Vice Roy of Pernambuco, in Brasil. Say's farther that he is inform'd from Maestricht, of the arrival of a young Spanish Monk at that place, a Professor of Divinity likewise, a very ingenious Person, & that both the Proselytes agree herein, that all the Learned men of Spain & Portugal are half-Protestants. He sends us these accounts he say's, that the Society may perceive what God seems to call them to, in respect to these half-enlightned People. The Spaniard is nam'd Molinos, & Nephew to the famous Quietist.[1] He mentions also another Convert, a Canon of S[t] Genevieve at Paris, he is about printing a Book in answer to the Lutherans, call'd an Apology for the Protestants touching Predestination. He wishes we could engage our French Booksellers to take off some of them, and to begin a Correspondence for the good of Religion.

231. S[r] John Duddlestone, of Bristol, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 8 Jan. 1700–1. Says that he ha's Communicated the Societies Letter to the Clergy, & to their Society for Reformation of Manners, who Return their Thanks. Gives a large account of the great Benefit the City of Bristol ha's Received from the late Erected Work-houses in that Place, and of their Provision for all sorts of Poor, & what an Influence this has had upon the Lives and Manners of the Vulgar, &c.

232. Arch-Deacon Booth, of Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 9 Jan. 1700–1. Thanks the Society for acquainting him with the Lecture in Cheshire, and that he with several of the Prebends, &c., have setled a Combination for a Sermon to be Preach'd at a Church in Durham much neglected by the Minister thereof, and hopes thereby to reclaim some that have deserted our Church. That he Catechises the young People at his house during the Winter, & Visit's the old and infirm that

[1] Molinos, the founder of the Quietists, was born in Spain 1627. He was imprisoned for his opinions by the Inquisition in 1685, and died in prison 1696.

are not able to come to Church. Finally, Promises to obey any farther Directions of the Society.

233. Mr. Gilbert, of Plymouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 10 Jan. 1700-1, owns y^e^ Receipt of Dr. Bray's Papers, & y^t^ he has greatly suffered for promoting the Designs of the Society, demands 400 of the Pastoral Letters, &c.

234. Mr. Drake, of Exeter, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 11 Jan. 1700–1. Excuse's his Silence for want of Matter, say's that he ha's return'd six Guineas to the Design of the Plantations, & hopes to make larger Remittances, &c.

235. Mr. Ellis, of Gonalston, in Nottinghamshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Jan. 15, 1700–1. Say's that their Affairs are dayly strengthned by the Addition of Subscribers. Give's a long Account of the Method of their Society (vid. the Letter). Say's that they have reduced their Meetings to Stated Times, and that some of the Gentry & Magistrates are very Assistant to them. Their Subscriptions for the present year amount to £220, of w^ch^ £60 has been laid out in good books, such as Tillotson on the Communion, Beveridge on the Common Prayer, Dr. Ashton's & Dr. Isham's books, the Pastoral Letter, &c., and that the remaining part is apply'd to the Education of poor Children, of whom there are about 200 taught in the County. That in November last, they had got leave of the Archbishop of York, to preach 4 quarterly Sermons, at four several places in the County. The first of which was preached lately at Nottingham. That the Subscribers meet once in six weeks to regulate their Charity, & appoint Inspectors of the Schools. Lastly, that he has sent away the Society's letter to Arch-Deacon Pearson.

236. Dr. Stanhope, from [Lewisham] in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 21 Jan. 1700–1. Says, that he had remain'd so long silent, but in hopes of giving his personal Attendance at the Society. Mightily approves of the Designs of the Society. Something of the like Nature in relation to Schools ha's been already attempted by him, wherein he particularly owns the assistance of Mr. Nelson. This was done at Lewisham, and he is about the same in Hertfordshire. Lastly, thanks the Society, & desires their farther Advice.

237. Mr. Fenwick, of Hallaton, near Harborough, Leicestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 21 Jan., 1700–1. Wonder's that he has no News of his Sermon. Thank's the Society for the Acceptance of his Mite, which he will return as soon as may be.

238. Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, Lancashire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 24 Jan. 1700–1. Apologises for his Silence, & says that he has almost agreed with their Usher to teach Servants to read in the Evenings. Suggests the Printing *Mr. Herbert's Church Porch* by its self, in order to be learnt by Children in Schools. Sends a Specimen of the alteration he would make, in Order to fit it for the said use, and desires the Opinion of the Society therein.

239. Mr. Hales, from Schaffhausen, in Switzerland, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 12 Jan. 1700–1. Thank's the Society for choosing him a Member, and promises to devote himself to their Service. Give's

several Reasons why the designs of the Society cannot be carried on in those Countries, after the same manner as in England, namely, that the Government being surrounded with Papists, is very Jealous of all Innovations, and that private men are not allow'd to dispose of their Charity either in raising Schools, or otherwise, without the leave of the Magistrate. But say's withall, that in some places, none of those things are wanting, thro' the excellent Discipline observ'd amongst them, particularly in Schaffhausen, whereof he Gives a large account. Propose's his Method for setting on foot a Correspondence between the Society & the Clergy of Switzerland; to wit, the Writing Circular Letters to all the Protestant Cantons, which he earnestly presse's again in the end of his Letter, as the only probable means of succeeding, and suggests several heads for such a Letter, which he desires may be writ in Latin. He will stay there 'till he shall recieve those Letters from the Society, which he will disperse according to Directions, together with some of our Books & Papers. He say's these Designs are very well relish'd by most of the Divines there, and that those that were great Enemies thereto, thro' Misrepresentations, are now convinc'd, and become as great Friends, particularly the learned Decanus, the Head of alll the Clergy in the Canton of Schaffhausen. When he has received the Societies Letters, he intends to go into Germany, where he promise's himself good success, especially in the Landgrave of Hessen's Countrey, of whom he gives a good Character. From thence he will proceed to Sweden & Denmark. Ha's shewn a Swedish Count some of our little Tracts, who was mightily pleas'd with the same, particularly, both the Pastoral Letters, the Caution against Swearing, &c., which are Translated, and now in the Press. He intends to Print some of these things in every Protestant Town as he goes along, particularly some in French for the poor Refugees, the antient Waldenses, & the Protestants of Aurange,[1] gives a great Character of Dr Woodward's Book about Religious Societies, which was Printed at Berlin, & dedicated to the Princess of Brandenbourg, married to the Prince of Hesse-Cassel. Fears some great Change from the present Juncture of Affairs in Europe.[2] Inclose's a Letter from Mr. Scherer to the Society, & accounts how exceedingly pleas'd they were at St Gall with the noble Present of English Books, which Mr. Scherer will diligently set about Translating, and that there is a learned Doctor in the same Town who is about Dr. Horneck's[3] works, & has already

[1] Orange, a town in France, situated eighteen miles north of Avignon. Though Francis I. of France caused it to be declared part of Provence, Henry II. recognised the Stadholder William's right to the title "Prince of Orange," and this title was borne by the Stadholders down to William III. of England. Of the half million Protestants in France nearly one-fourth still abide in the Gard, which adjoins the region of Orange.

[2] The war of the Spanish Succession began shortly after.

[3] Dr. Horneck, Preacher at the Savoy, one of the founders of the Religious Societies. He was born in Germany, 1641, studied at Heidelberg and Oxford. Died 1696.

turned Dr. Burnet's works into Latin, which are much esteem'd there. Wishes that some good Piece was writ to animate the People to the Defence of their Religion & Native Countrey, w^ch^ might be frequently & publickly read; he would send such a little Treatise taken out of the holy Scripture, if he thought it might be acceptable, &c.

240. Mr. Scherer, from S^t^ Gall, Switzerland, Jan. 13–24, 1700–1, to the Society, Writes that the pious Designs of the Society were known & mightily approv'd of there; especially since Mr. Hales had given them an exacter account of it. He accepts the Correspondence with great Testimonies of Gladness, and returns Thanks for the books sent him, which he promises to Translate forthwith into the Helvetian Tongue, as soon as he receiv's them, and afterwards to lay them up in their Publick Library, with a suitable Inscription. He is very thankful for the Honor done to his Son; and says that a closer Correspondence with the Chief Ministers of the Helvetian Church will be very acceptable to their Nation; but desires that a farther Consideration of this affair, may be put off for a while. He excuses his Freedom in Cautioning the Society to have a great care of Popish Missionaries, who are implacable Enemies to it & its Designs; and concludes his Letter with his Prayers to God for its Prosperity & Establishment.

241. Dr. Franckes, from Hall [Halle], in Saxony, 21 January 1700–1, to the Society, Owns the Receipt of the Societies Letters & the Books sent with them, for which he Returns Thanks. He excuse's his long Silence, which (he says) was caused by the outward Insults of ill men, from various Temptations within, from a lingering fit of Sickness, and especially from the unexpected Delays that have hindred the Printing some little Books, which he intended to send to the Society, together with his Letters, by a Friend of his. One of these Books (which, he say's, are all ready for the Press) is a large Description of all those Statutes & Orders of which he has the Direction, and of the Rules & Method they observe in their School. But he hope's those Obstacles will be remov'd that have hindred the Publication of them. He seem's much affected with the Honor done him, in making him a (Corresponding) Member of the Society. The Love & Charity of this Society, he say's, does answer the Expectation of those pious & learned men in Germany, who have heard any thing of the Designs of it. And that they do Presage, that many Benefits, by its means, will accrue to the whole Christian Church; especialy, a stricter Union amongst Protestants. That the great Success of the Societies Undertakings, is known in Germany, by the means of the Reverend Mr. Jablonski, a Chaplain to the now King of Prussia: who has translated the English Account of the Religious Societies into High-Dutch. Which book ha's been already very useful not only to many particular Persons, but to a Religious Society at Nurenberg. He hints that the Harvest of the Lord grow's ripe there, and show's the pious Inclinations of people of different Stations & Condition, of both Sexes; wishing that the Lord would send them more Laborers. As for himself & his Partners, they make it their business to promote the Interests of Religion, with-

out any Respect to a Temporal Reward, but relying upon the Help & Assistance of God alone, whose Blessing, he says, seems to have follow'd their Endeavors. That 'tis this Consideration alone that keeps him at Hall, when as otherwise, he should very much desire to be present at the Meetings of the Society. But since Christian Charity to his Neighbors does for the present prohibit this, he will study to be as useful to the Society as he can. To this end, he thinks a Correspondence may be serviceable, in pursuance of which, he promises hereafter to Communicate some of their Affairs.

242. Mr. Adamson, of Burton, in Lincolnshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 22 Jan. 1700–1. Sends inclosed in his Letter by the Hands of S^r^ Edm. Turner a new Copie of the Articles of their Society with the alterations he made lately. He would have communicated them sooner had he not waited for such an Opportunity. Say's that some of the Clergy in other parts of the County have receiv'd several Copies of those Articles, & intend to build on the same Model. Say's farther that they might have expected a much greater Harvest, if some that were unwilling to unite with them had not spread abroad malicious Reports against the Lawfulness of such Assemblies. Wishes therefore that the Articles might be laid before the Arch-bishop, and the Lord Chief Justice Holt, and their Opinions ask'd therein. That accordingly what were dislik'd might be amended, and if approv'd of, they might proceed with more Courage & Resolution; but this he submitts to the Pleasure of the Society.

243. Arch-Deacon Willet, of Stretton, Gloucestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 3 Feb. 1700–1. Says that the utmost they have done in those parts, ha's been to disperse a few Practical Pieces among their Flocks, but are not without hopes of setting up a School at Cirencester of like nature with that at Gloucester, whereof he supposes we have had an Account. This is the reason why we hear from him so seldom; own's the Receit of the last Packet, & rejoyces at the Society. Wishes that the Laws were more effectual in restraining the Sin of Fornication, which the Ecclesiastic Laws can't reach, either thro' their Weakness, or the Corruption of their Officers. And by the Temporal Laws, this Vice is no otherwise punishable than unless a Man ha's a Bastard; nor even then, if he can secure the Parish from the Charge of it. Hope's the Parliament will provide therein, and the Society excuse his Freedom occasion'd by his Zeal, &c.

244. Mr. Theophilus Dorrington, from Wittr^e^sham, in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 8 Jan. 1700–1. Declare's how sensible he is of the Obligation he lies under to promote the good Designs of the Society, and that he will not be wanting in himself, or in encouraging his Neighbours of the Clergy in the same: several of whom he finds wel dispos'd towards the Work. The Reasons of his long Silence are, that he has been a great while detained in London by very sensible Afflictions, that the ways are unpassable in the Countrey, & like to be so, and besides, that he has been wholly taken up in Suppressing of Practical Atheism, Neglect of Sacraments, & all the Worship of God,

and which is worse, (because Damnable as well as the other) Error, Schism & Heresy, wherewith his Parish has been long over-run. Propose's some Difficulties that occur to him in his Endeavors for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and wishe's the Society would Advise & Direct him how to obviate them. The Chiefest of these Impediments, is the Liberty either given or taken by the Dissenters by their Toleration, to Revile & Disparage the Church, whereby they prejudice their hearers against all that is offered by our Ministers. Another, is their Zeal in promoting their several Sects & Persuasions. Another, the Liberty given to Illiterate & Handycraft men to Preach & Teach, provided they Subscribe certain Articles. Another, that they Invade any man's Parish, and refuse to produce a Certificate or License for Teaching, &c., upon all which he largely expatiates, and Concludes with his Request to the Society, that they would use their Interest with the Members of Parliament, in order to Regulate the Toleration, &c.

245. Mr. Gordon, from on board His Majestie's Ship the Salisbury, to the Secretaries Assistant, January 22, 1700–1. Write's, that since his Departure, he ha's had Time enough to Methodise some Thoughts of his, concerning the Propagation of the Gospel among the Indians in North-America: which Thoughts or Proposals he has also sent enclosed in his Letter; desiring that they may be read to the Society, whose Opinion he shall not expect 'till his Return. Say's that he will take especial Care to dispose of the Sheets the Society ordered him, in the manner they are intended, and beseeches Heaven to prosper their Noble Designs.

246. (Lay) Mr. Wm. Colmore, of Warwick, to Mr. Welshman, 17 January, 1700–1. Thanks him for the Account of Societies, &c. Promises to stir up the Neighboring Magistrates to the Execution of the Laws for Promoting Reformation. Say's, that the only thing to be Reform'd in their Town, is the Peoples absenting themselves from Church under Pretence of want of Room: which they will endeavor to obviate, by searching suspected Houses in the time of Divine Service. Is glad that the Society do's not require an Oath. Dispairs of such Meetings there, because most of their Gentlemen are bound for London. Did not well understand the Secretaries Letter, and besides, has mislaid it. Promises to disperse Mr. Keith's Papers.

247. Mr. Edw. Welshman, of Lapworth, in Warwickshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 8 Febr. 1700–1. Say's that such Lectures as the Cheshire Divines have Set up, are not wanted amongst them: and besides, are liable to Inconveniences that need not be nam'd. But however, they will Set up a Monthly Lecture at Henley in Arden. That the Sermons sent by him, are not his, & believes they still lie at the Warwick-Carrier's.

248. Arch-Deacon Booth, of Eassington, in Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 15 Febr. 1700–1. Says, he is endeavoring to settle Monthly Communions in his Jurisdiction, and ha's writ to the Respective Ministers to preach up the Duty thereof. And that he has sent a Circular Letter to his Clergy to cause all the young people of the age

of 16 to come every Wednesday & Friday in Lent to their Houses & to prepare them for the Easter Communion, and the Servants a Sundays upon the same Account. Wishes the same were done thro' the whole Kingdom, he having had great Success therein. Desires the Number & Quality of the Gentlemen of the Society, and that the Bishop of Chester would please to attempt the engaging the Lord Warrington into the Society.

249. Mr. Selyard (from Surrey) to Mr. Chamberlayne, 20 Febr. 1700–1. Thanks the Society for the Books & Papers sent him. Shew's his willingness (in Concert with Mr. Cranston & Mr. Sturmey) to promote a Society of the Clergy in their parts, which he however seem's inclined to think impracticable, for divers Reasons which he alledges. Says that Mr. Cranston design's to endeavor the Erection of a Lending Library, which besides its benefit to the inferior Clergy may in time be a means to draw the Clergy together, & to frame them into a Society. Adds that he has distributed several small books, & if the Society will send more, he promises to distribute them also, where they will do most good.

250. Mr. Vincent Edwards, from Embleton, in Northumberland, Feb. 21, 1700–1, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Gives thanks for the Honor done him in being made a Corresponding Member of the Society, to which he says he ha's been long a well-wisher, &c. Adds that in August last, about nine of the Clergy of Alnwick Deanery, at the request of their Arch-Deacon did agree upon Monthly Meetings to Discourse together & Engage themselves mutually and solemnly to prosecute their Duties, 1. in Catechising young people. 2. by administring y^e^ holy Sacram^t^ 4 times a year. 3. by frequent reading prayers in the Church. 4. by dispersing good books. 5. by being Exemplary in their Carriage. 6. by frequent Visiting their Parishioners. 7. by meeting monthly, & between y^e^ times of meeting by promoting Closet & Family Prayers. All which particulars are more largely described in the letter it self.

251. (Lay) Mr. John Cocks, of Gloucester to Mr. Chamberlayne, 21 Febr. 1700–1, sends inclosed a large Account of the Charity School in Gloucester, and suggests that the same thing may be done at Hereford by the means of the Dean of that place and Cannon Watts, whose Piety he much commends.

252. Mr. Gordon, from on board his Majesties Ship the Salisbury, to the Secretaries Assistant, Febr. 22, 1700–1. Desires to know the Societies Resolution about the Proposals enclosed in his last Letter (viz. n° 245). Desires to know whether his Proposals relating to the Seamen are Published or not; if they be, he hopes the Society will endeavor to get them establish'd by Act of Parliament, at this favorable juncture. Desires that the Lord BP. of London may be address'd unto for the sending a real, worthy, exemplary man to be Chaplain for the Admiral in chief. As to the Reformation of the Seamen, he Recommends the Gift of a little Tobacco to be join'd to good advice & Instruction; which being done with a due air of Concern, he says

will have wonderful Effects. And therefore writes that the Society would send a considerable Quantity of course Tobacco to be disposed of by each Chaplain of a Ship accordingly. Lastly he concludes all with his prayers for the Blessing of God upon the Society.

253. Mr. Welshman, of Lapworth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 24 Feb., 1700–1. Writes that he has acquainted the L^d^BP. of Worcester with the Resolution of their Society about a Monthly Lecture at Henley, to which his Lordship had been pleas'd to return a very kind Answer, a copie of which he sends in the 2^d^ pag. of his Letter. He hopes that now upon my Lord's generous Offers of his Assistance, it will not be so difficult to erect a School there, as it hath formerly been. But as for the Plantations, he fears they can do no more than pray for their prosperity. Thanks Mr. Chamberlayne for looking after the Sermons, &c. which he should not have been troubled withal, had they not fallen in with the Designs of the Society, which he beseeche's God, may meet with an everlasting Reward.

254. Mr. Wootton, from Buckinghamshire, 24 Febr. 1700–1, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Excuse's his long Silence, which he think's however, very well supplied by Mr. Frank. This Gentleman, he says, did not long since acquaint him with the nature of Mr. Ludolfs Proposals, and therefore he suggests, that the Society or somebody employ'd by them should draw up such a Catechism as should be proper, which might (by the Direction of Dr. Woodroff, Principal of Gloucester hall, in Oxford) be translated into the Vulgar Greek, & sent accordingly.

255. Mr. Heart, of Portsmouth, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 1 March, 1700–1. Excuses his Silence which, he says, shall be accounted for by a Brother of his, who intends shortly for London. By him also he will acquaint the Society how he disposed of their Books & Papers. Writes that Mr. Hunt received the Circular Letter w^th^ Approbation, & that his not answering it must be imputed to his illness alone.

256. Mr. Atherton, of Liverpool, to Mr. Taylor, of Wigan, 15 Nov., 1700. Shews the difficulties of Erecting a Charity-School there by reason of the want of near £50,000 Transport debt; their Lawsuit with the Cheesemongers, wherein they had been twice cast, their Building a New Church; a Tax for the Maintenance of Ministers; besides the deadness of Trade. Notwithstanding all these discouragements Mr. Styth & He do hope to raise £6 ℔ ann. as a Salary to some poor woman for teaching so many poor Children. With this they intend to begin, & then to try the Charity of others.

257. The BP. of Sodor & Man,[1] to Mr. Chamberlayne, 19 Jan. 1700. Writes that the Clergy had met Monthly all the last Summer in some Church in the Market Towns, where, a Sermon being first Preach'd, they consult proper Methods for carrying on the Design of propagating Christian Knowledge. That they had agreed to raise a small Fund by Subscription for Schools, decaid Farmers & distressed Passengers, and that many Laity had concurr'd with them. He bewails the Ignorance of the Common people, and that few of them understand English; and saith that he is endeavouring to bring them to read it, and that

[1] Bishop Wilson.

200 of Dr. Bray's Lectures & 500 Pastoral Letters have been disposed of among them with good success. He desires to know the Method of Regulating the Charity Schools, & to have the Arch-BP's Circular Letter. Directs how to send to him by Post or Carrier.

258. Mr. Hales, from Lindow [Lindau], in Germany, to Mr. Hodges, 8 Febr. 1700–1. Writes that the Divines & Magistrates of S^t Gall are so extreamly pleas'd with the Designs of the Society & the Present of books & their kind Offer to Mr. Scherer; that they purpose to send the Society a Letter of Thanks in the Name of the States, together with Assurances of their joyning with them in their Pious Designs, &c. Desires that with letters to the 4 Cantons, one should be sent to the Divines of S^t Gall & handed to him p the first (as he would also have the Societies Directions & Advice every fourtnight or 3 weeks at farthest). By the same Method, he says, that Letters may be sent to the States of Each Canton, tho' he hopes those to their Divines will be sufficient. Says that the Divines will Encourage the States of Each Canton to Order Public Meetings to consult how to put these pious designs in Execution, & to acknowledge the Care & Love of England to their Helvetic Church: this with other Endeavors, he hopes may cause that Harmony amongst Protestants as may be most advantagious to them. Farther, that Mr. Scherer intends to dedicate to the Society his Synchronismus Chronologicus now in the Press, wherein he will publish to the World the Society's most Christian works & happy Success, with his Thanks for the Present of Books & kind Offer to his Son, which Generosity coming from England, he says, is far more acceptable than if the Emperor or French King should present them with 1,000 times the Value. He say's that 'tis generally supposed that the Papists are now plotting more furiously than ever to raise Sedition & Rebellion amongst us: and therefore, since y^e Protestant Interest does depend upon the welfare of England, he proposes that at all Maritime Towns each Passenger should be examined, &c., & private Letters searched for: for when the Adversaries are forging Mischief they send their Letters by private Messingers & not p Post, for fear of that search should be made after them. He desires also that Care should be taken to find out their Clubs & places of Rendezvous in London. And believes that such a Method would have good Success. Desires (for divers Reasons) that the Number of the Society be Increased, that they be all English & no Foreigner to be admitted, unless some Virtuous Prince or Person of good Quality. That Mr Scherer is translating into High Dutch, Mr. Dorrington's[1] Guide to the Holy Communion, which will soon be Printed, and that he is willing to translate into German or Latin any other good book that comes from England. That the Dayly Devotion, Pastoral Letter & Caution ag^t Swearing are now Printed at S^t Gall, and that he hopes to get

[1] Rev. T. Dorrington, Rector of Witresham, Kent, was author of numerous works. He translated Puffendorf's "Comparative View of the Lutheran Churches and the Church of England."

some more at the place he resides in at present. Lastly he highly approves what Mr. Hodges has mentioned to him about Recommending our Nobility & Gentry that Travel, to seek more the Interest of our Religion & Countrey than anything else : And he promise's that if any Sober young Gentleman is willing to travel with him on these Terms, that he will endeavor to help him to all Accomplishments becoming a true Christian, and will take as much care of him as if he were his Brother.

259. Mons^{r} Scherer, from S^{t} Gall, in Switzerland, 18 Febr. 1700-1, writes, in Latin, to Mr. Chamberlayne, that the Honor which the Society ha's done him & his Son, will meet with the public Thanks of their Government, and will be transmitted hither, as soon as they have made choice of a fit Messenger. That he will set upon the Translation of the books sent him by the Society as soon as he receive's them, and that so much the Rather, because he finds that his Translation of the Pastoral Letter & of the Guide to dayly Devotion, dispers'd there & in the Neighboring Regions by Mr. Hales & others, has met with all possible Success. In the mean time, he will translate the Christian Monitor & Mr. Dorrington's Institution of the Holy Sacrament, which he hopes to publish within a Month. And he hopes he may add to those books some Prayers taken out of Dr. Woodward's Account of the Religious Societies without Offence to any. Wishes that the Author of the Caution against Swearing (lately Translated into the Helvetian tongue by Mons. Vitus, the Antistes of Schaffhausen) would write also against the other Vices in Order. Adding that tho' the Ministers of the Helvetian Church are not wanting to their Duty in this Respect ; yet Assistance from Abroad & especially from England (whose pious Books they have the greatest Reverence for) they find by Experience ha's the best Effects. Lament's the proneness of their Commonalty to Dice & Cards, which they should be glad to obviate by any Means, y^{e} Care of the Magistrate & Rebukes of the Minister having hitherto proved ineffectual. Intimates that in their Annual Synod (which is held after the Sunday called Misericordias Domini), they exhort their Willing Magistracy to the Destruction of Vice. That as to the present State of their Church, they should look upon it as prosperous enough did not Pietism spread so much in the Canton of Bern, & if the differences in Glauris & Appenzel about the Observation of the Style were appeased. As to the Correspondence between the English & Helvetian Churches, he proposes that Credential Letters for Mr. Hales be written & sealed with the Seal of the Society, & directed either to each Ministery, or to all together. But whether to the one or the other, he advises that to those of Zurich, Bern, Basil & Schaffhausen, there should be joyn'd the Ministers of Glauris, Appenzel, & S^{t} Gall, and if 'tis thought fit, those of Geneva, according to custom. To those letters which are sent to Zurich, he directs a particular Superscription. Seems concern'd at the Rumors of War, the Effects whereof upon our Religion he pray's God to avert, and that he would bless the pious designs of the Society.

260. Mr. Jos. Margetts, of Kempston, in Bedfordshire, to Mr. Frank, March 8, 1700–1. Expresses his Joy & satisfaction for the Receipt of Mr. Frank's Letter (which acquainted him with the Benefaction of the Society, intended to his Parish). Shews his Resolution to surmount the difficulties he dayly meets with, and remembers the public Services of John Pierson & John Reynolds. The former teaches gratis 15 or 16 poor Children to read, & instruct's them in the Church Catechism without Exposition, brings them to Prayers as often as there is any, and twice in the Week meet's another Company of adult persons (about 8 in number) in the Town, & hears them read, and trains them up in BP. William's Exposition of the Church Catechism. The latter Instruct's Gratis another Company every night at his House, in the Catechism, in Reading and Serious Principles, and indeavors to bring them to an awful sence of God & man. Says y^t^ he goes him self sometimes to encourage them. That on Friday nights they have their publick Meeting in the Church, where there is a great appearance of either age & Sex, & all things are carried on in Decency & Order. Say's that the Societies kindness will be a great advantage to their proceedings, and that he will distribute their books with as much prudence as he can.

261. Mr. Thomlinson, from Newcastle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 8, 1700–1. Write's, That a Manufacture to employ the poor has Superseded all former designs of erecting Charity-Schools. He accounts for the Methods the Corporation hath used to employ the poor. Is endeavoring to form a Society for Reformation of Manners out of a Religious Society, & desire's papers & Instructions for that purpose. He designs to endeavor to induce the Clergy of Northumberland to follow the Cheshire President. Give's a Character of Mr. Edwards as a pious & good man. Hopes to obtain a Society of the Clergy in Alnwick Deanery, and saith there is one already in Morpeth Deanery, and that he will try to promote Reformation-Sermons. He demands the Pastoral Letter, and the other pen'd by the same Author, in all 500, &c. And send's an Account of the Prints he has already received.

262. Mr. Fenwick, of Hallaton in Leicestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 10, 1700–1. Thank's him for the Care he has taken about his MS. and give him Advice of the 40s. which he present's to the Society, which, he says, is far more Generous in them to accept (it being so small a present) than in him to offer.

263. Mr. Ellison, from New-Castle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, March 11, 1700–1. Write's several Particulars contain'd also in Mr. Thomlinson's Letter, n° 261. Beside's which, he say's that he ha's dispos'd of most of Dr. Bray's books, and wishes he could promote y^e^ sending any Missionaries; as to which at present he wants the King's or Bishop's Recommendations. Says that they have Catechetical Lectures there every week, except in Lent & Advent, when they have Sermons on Wednesdays & Fridays. Own's his Receipt of 2 Boxes of Books, &c. and concludes with his good wishes to the Society.

264. Mr. Ostervald, from Nieufchastel, in Switzerland, to the Society, March 11, 1701. Accepts the Correspondence with great Thankfulness and Modesty, and says that as soon as he was appris'd of the Setting up of the Society, he look'd upon it as the most happy Crisis that ha's befel the Christian Church a long time. Moreover, that what the Society has undertaken, will (he say's) according to all Appearance finish the great Work of the Reformation of the Church, establish the Purity of Manners, bring back the antient discipline, attract Strangers to the Purity of our Faith, & strengthen the Protestant Churches, which for want of a good union & Correspondence decline dayly both by Persecution & Corruption.

265. Mr. A.D. Pearson, from York, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 19 Febr. 1700–1. Thanks the Society for the Honor they did him in Choosing him a Corresponding Member. But says that his Great Distance from London, & his not being able, upon that & other Accounts, to attend their Meetings & Consults, make him beg to be excus'd in that particular. But that when any Opportunity offer's itself, he will not be wanting in his Endeavors to help forward any of their good Designs, & answer the good Opinion they have conceived of him.

266. Mr. Gordon, from the Downes, to the Secretaries Assistant, March 22, 1701. Owns his Omission in not desiring that the Postage of all Letters sent to him in the Fleet Royal, should be paid here, which (it seems) occasioned the miscarriage of divers that were sent to him. He desires to know what was done as to his former Proposals, & to have Notice sent him of the most material Transactions of the Society, transmitted to him from the Journal.

(As to the Proposals he write's about, they were consider'd, & judged to be impracticable.)

267. Dr. John Osmond, from Exeter, 24 March, 1700–1, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Own's the Receipt of the Societies Letter, and his great Satisfaction of finding so many Worthy men engaged in such good Designs. Promise's his service as a private person: but unless the Convocation Countenance the Matter, fears that few of the Dignified Clergy will meddle in it. Desire's some more of Dr. Bray's Packets which are mightily liked in those parts, &c.

268. Mr. Dorrington, from Wittresham, in Kent, 27 March, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Acknowledge's the great Civilities he has receiv'd from the Hon^ble^ Society, and fear's they should think that he had neglected Writing to them, whereas he writ some time since, but doubt's the Letter has miscarried, because there was no Answer return'd to it, &c.

268.* Dr. Todd, from Carlisle, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 27 March, 1701. Owns the Receipt of the Societies Papers & Dr. Bray's Acts of Visitation. Says that the business of the Plantations would be carried on more effectually, if the Convocation were applied to, and that he has writt to his Brother in Jamaica to promote the same, &c.

269. Dr. Jephcott, from Evesham, Worcestershire, to Mr. Cham-

berlayne 29 March, 1701. Own's the Receipt of all the Societies Letters & Packet; and thereupon, in July last apply'd to his Diocesan for leave to raise a Society, which he obtain'd under his Hand. That accordingly 14 of the neighbouring Clergy met in September, and afterwards Monthly. That they had Prayers & a Sermon, that they purchased some Numbers of little books, which they Distributed Gratis, or Lent. They agreed also upon Catechising, and on private Admonitions, and to Promote Charity-Schools. That they have set up one in Evesham, consisting of 40 poor Children, which they hope to enlarge by Subscriptions from Persons of Quality that are Freemen of their Burrough. That their good Bishop has promis'd to add a Tenth to whatever shall be Subscribed on the same Account in all places of his Diocess. That there are few Papists, but many Quakers in Evesham, some of whose grown Children are Baptiz'd. That there are Monthly Sacraments in that Town, but cannot be so in the Countrey Parishes, and that Praiers are much neglected. That some of them are well inclin'd towards the maintenance of Ministers in the Plantations if they could be put in a proper Method for it, but that their Livings in those parts are very mean. Whereupon, he recommends the Case of poor Vicaridges to the Bishops that some Provision by a Law might be attempted by them. Says farther, that there is a meeting of the Clergy at Upton-on-Severn, at Henley in Arden, and at Aldcester, 7 miles from Evesham, &c.

270. Mr. Braddock, of Canterbury, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 3 April, 1701. Says that they have no Charity School nor Workhouse, tho' both much wanted, that there is no Society of the Clergy nor Parochial Library near them. That there is a Sacrament every Sunday in the Cathedral Church, and Monthly in three other Churches. That a Religious Society did pay for a Preparation Sermon, but were weary of it, and now the Clergy give it Gratis. That there was another, but it is like to fall. That there are few Papists or Quakers, but on the Sea-Coasts. That Anabaptists are the strongest party among them, and that there is a Society for Reformation, who have assisted in putting down some ill Houses.

271. Mr. Thomas Shewell, from Gravesend, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 4 April, 1701. Accepts the Correspondence thankfully, and desires the farther Advice of the Society. That he is going to Sea with S^r^ Cloudesley Shovel in the Barfleur; and that it would be very necessary for the Admiralty to recommend to Captains, the Countenancing their Chaplains, and for the Bishop of London to send a Superintendent. Gives a good Character of Mr. Truelove, a Clergyman, and Master of the Freeschool at Gravesend.

272. S^r^ George Wheeler, from Durham, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 28 March, 1701. Says y^t^ according to his promise to the Hon^ble^ Society the last year, he ha's sent a scheme of some proposals, which if duly put in Execution, he conceive's would tend to the restoring the decaied Discipline of the Church, and to the Encouragement of Virtue, Holiness, &c. These Proposals consist of ten Articles. In Substance,

That all Societies should be according to Ecclesiastical Order; That they should be composed of Rural Deaneries in Subordination to Arch-Deaneries, Dioceses & Provinces, whereby they might more easily Associate, and more frequently meet; That out of several Rural Deaneries the Arch-Deacon might form his Society, and if the Diocesan would vouchsafe to do the same with his Dean, Prebends, & Arch Deacons it would highly resemble that Apostolic *Presbouterion* the Scripture & S^{t} Ignatius so often mention. That nothing more could be wish'd but that the Arch-B^{ps} would put themselves at the head of these Societies. That it would mightily conduce to the Benefit of his People, if each Minister would Associate with the Chief of his Parishioners and the Church-Wardens. That the Members of Societies should not be too numerous, for fear of falling into Parties. That the number should not exceed twelve beside the President, or Chairman. That as occasion offer's, some of the Laity should be added to these Societies, out of the Nobility, Magistracy & pious Gentry. He believes the L^{d} B^{p} of Salisbury does something like this in his Diocess, as far as he could observe from the Visitations of his particular Deaneries. Lastly, he is desirous, he Says, to know how the Society approve of this Scheme, that accordingly he might consider of some farther Regulations.

273. Mr. Gilbert, of Plymouth, from Exeter, 5 April, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Say's y^{t} all he can do, is to take off some of the Societies small Books. That he gave £5 to a Library which Dr. Bray raised at Plymouth, but that nothing more ha's been done therein, not even by Mr. Martin the Minister who promis'd £2 to the same. That he has brought over one Quaker Gentlewoman to the Church. That there is not one Papist or Non-Juror in Plymouth. That there are Monthly Sacraments, and Prayers twice a day, but no Societies till the B^{p} gives leave.

274. (Lay) Mr. Laugharne, of S^{t} Brides, Pembrokeshire, 4 April, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Says that they can form but one Society of Clergy & Laity in their County. That some of the former refuse to joyn with them. They have Monthly Sacraments and Lectures in 2 or 3 Towns, no Workhouses, and few Schools. That they distribute Books among the Poor, and Mr. Keith's Papers among the Quakers who are so obstinate as not to read them.

275. (Lay) Mr. Whinfield, from Newcastle, 7 April, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Ha's communicated the Societies Letter to Mr. Ellison their Minister, says that the Corporation ha's agreed with a Person to take ten Boys & Girls every month, and teach them to spin Woollen Yarn till they are able to maintain themselves, and that there is a Schoolmaster to teach them to read, &c., that S^{r} W^{m} Blackett has taken upon himself to be Overseer of this matter the first six months. That the Mayor of the Town ha's promised to take away the Licenses of such Public Houses as suffer Tipling on the Lord's day.

276. Mr. Harris, of Llantrissent, Glamorganshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 8 April, 1701. Says, that altho' he ha's communicated the

Societies Letter & Papers to some of the greatest of the County; it ha's been for the most part unsuccessful. That many of his Brethren had promis'd to promote Catechetical Lectures, according to the Bishop of Chichester's System translated into Welsh by Dr. Evans. That there will be a meeting of the Clergy in Easter Week, &c. That many of the Quakers Eyes have been open'd by the distributing Mr. Keith's Papers. That there are two Schools in Llantrissent. That the Poor are numerous, lazy & mutinous, and so much addicted to Sports even in Divine Service, that he ha's been forced to become Church-warden in order the better to restrain them. That about £200 per ann. is collected, but doe's not suffice to put out all the poor, and to maintain the Aged. Lastly, That he shall be glad to receive farther Directions & Assistance.

277. Mr. Andrew Cranston, of Reigate in Surrey, 31 March, 1701, to Mr. Bromfield, own's the receit of the Packet, and say's there is little to be hoped for in his Countrey where there is no Justice of the Peace near them, and where he can't induce the Clergy to meet. That they have no Charity-Schools, no Societies of the Clergy, and no Converts from Quakerism. That one Library has been set up lately, and in his Parish Monthly Sacraments, and the number of Communicants encrease daily. That there is but one Society for Reformation of Manners in his Neighbourhood, which is at Kingston. That he knows none so fit as Mr. Bromhall to succeed Mr. Selyard as Lay-Correspondent to the Society.

278. Mr. Ostervald, of Neuf-châtel, in Switzerland, to Mr. Masson, 21 March, 1701. Says, The Clergy will meet there in a day or two, in order to raise a new School, and that in Consequence of the Letters from the Society & the Account which he ha's caused to be there Printed. Say's farther y^t^ in Order to instruct their Children in the Holy Scriptures, he ha's made an Extract from all the choicest Passages of the New Testament, which he intends to Print, and make the Youth learn it by heart. That he ha's had some thoughts of compiling two Sorts of Catechisms, one Short & Plain for the use of Children that begin, & t'other more large & particular for the Catecumens. That they admit none to the Sacrament that cannot read. Wishes that the Society at London would write to their Dean & Ministers as a Body, which would make them Act much more vigorously. That they shall hold their General Assembly on the first of May, where if such a Letter met them, it would have a wonderfull Effect.

279. Not abstracted.

280. Mr. Patrick Gordon, from Deal, 10 April, 1701, to the Secretaries Assistant, desires to know what ha's been done about his Proposals in Relation to the Fleet & the Indians of North-America; and that the Society would send him down 7,000 or 8,000 Copies of the Paper against Swearing, in order to be distributed thro' the whole Fleet, &c. That it would be a good Method to Distribute such sort of Papers among the Merchant Men by lodging a good number at Gravesend. Lastly, wishe's that the Society would buy some of our

English Bibles, printed in Holland, & lend them thro' the Fleet, for which he propose's a Method.

281. Mr. Arthur Bedford, from Bristol, 14 April, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne. Say's that the Society for Reformation had order'd him, before the Receit of ours, to communicate some better Methods for Preventing the Abuses of the Lord's day, which shall be shortly sent, and a full answer to all the Points in the Societies Letters, of which he will impart the Contents to S^r John Duddlestone, Dr. Read, and Mr. Cary.

282. S^r W^m Dawes, of Bocking, in Essex, 16 April, 1701, to Mr. Chamberlayne, Says that he knows of no Charity-Schools or Work-houses near him, excepting a School & Library built 2 or 3 years ago, at Maldon, and a work-house at Colchester. That there can be no Societies in those parts, for Reasons he care's not to mention. No Monthly Sacraments but in his own Parish. Few Papists of note, the chief are the Lord Petre & S^r Edw. Southcote. In Stebbing & Felsted the Quakers do mightily abound, few or no Converts. Great number of Dissenters, especially Muggletonians,[1] the Gentry generally of the Church, & pretty good. Several Parishes have lately adorn'd their Churches, his ha's cost £200 on that account. But one Society for Reformation, and that under his Direction, and they go on very well. They want Books to distribute amongst the poor, and Work-houses to employ them. That the Dissenters let their Children go to Church. That Mr. Whetham is a Stranger to him, and the best way to send to him is directly from London. Lastly, that tho' he can't attend the Society, he will always joyn with, and assist them.

283. (Lay) Mr. Robert Hales, from S^t Gall, in Swisserland, to Mr. Hodges, 11 April, 1701. Respect's his Advise & earnest Entreaties to the Society to enter into a Correspondence with the whole body of the Helvetic Divines, and to acquaint them with what ha's been doing in England, the Hopes whereof he say's ha's made the Ministers of S^t Gall & Schafhausen give him great assurances of their Zeal to promote Reformation. That there is a Society set up at S^t Gall and a Fund for printing and dispersing Bibles and such good Books as shall be recommended to them from England. That upon the same Account, the Senate & Ministers caress him mightily, and lately entertain'd him very splendidly. That one Letter to Zurich the chief Protestant Canton may serve for all the rest, they being obliged by Oath to communicate to each other all important Matters, and that the Society need not write to them above 3 or 4 times a year. That at his Return home, if the Correspondence lie heavy upon the Society, he will willingly manage that part himself. For all these Reasons, he hopes the

[1] The founders of the Muggletonians were John Reeve and Lodovick Muggleton (1650). The principal work of this sect is "A Divine Looking-Glass: or, the Third and Last Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ," &c. The Muggletonians do not appear in the list in Whitaker's Almanack, but they are said to have existed in 1850.

Society will not refuse what he desires. He prays Mr. Hodges to prevail with some of our Bishops to give the enclos'd Letter to his Brother S^r Thomas, it Relating to a Design of converting S^r John Hales from Popery. Wishe's that his Brother was a Member of the Society. He find's that many of the Divines in Germany & Swisserland are for attempting an Union of Protestants, and that the impending War is likely to promote it. He intend's to advise with Professor Frank & Dr. Speiner about it. Want's any small Tract that exactly describe's the Present State of Popery & of the Protestant Religion, that a Governor of the Grisons would publish it there, and send some thousands of them to Noble-men of Venice, Genoa & Milan, with whom he Corresponds, and who are much enclined to a Reformation.

284. Mr. John Jacob Scherer to Mr. Chamberlayne, S^t Gall in Swisserland, 11 April, N.S. Own's the Receit of a Letter from the Society, dated the 25 Febr. and how great a Spur it ha's been to him in the Business he is undertaking. Say's that he in concurrence with other Zealous Ministers of their Church, and some rich Lay-men, has dispers'd several Thousand Copies of those little Tracts sent by the Society, and by him Translated, wherein he ha's been employed day and night. Says farther, that altho' the Society do not conceive any great hopes from entring into a Correspondence with the whole body of the Helvetian Ministers, yet they look upon it as a thing that will much forward the Designs of the Society. That Mr. Hales being arm'd with such Credentials, will have a much freer access to them, and also put a stop to the odd Notions that some have already form'd to themselves of the very name of a Society. That Mr. Hales stays in S^t Gall in expectation of such Letters, and that as soon as he ha's received them he will proceed on his Travells, together with Mr. Scherers Son, in order to promote these excellent Designs throughout all Swisserland & Germany.

285. (Lay) Monsieur de Beringhen, from the Hague, 19 April, 1701, N.S. to Mr. Chamberlayne, excuse's his Silence upon the account of his Illness; that he ha's attempted to raise a Society among the Dutch, but that the main Objection is, that to settle Churches & Schools, is the Business of their Clergy, who would not fail to complain of the Encroachment to the Supreme Powers; and moreover, that there is no need of them in Holland, where the States have so liberally provided for both. Say's therefore, that if he can fix a Society, it shall be only for a Correspondence of Letters, and for Printing small Tracts, in order to promote Christian Knowledge. That the Gentlemen of the Countrey were inclin'd to leave the Management of those Matters to six Refugees who had begun it, but upon their Representation how necessary it was that a matter of so great importance should be carried on by the Natives of every Countrey, &c. they seem'd to be satisfied with those and other Reasons. Desires a more particular Account of the Business of the Society, and of the Condition & Quality of those that compose it, that he might be furnished with new Arguments for

those Gentlemen who do already agree how usefull such a Correspondence is amongst all Protestants, and how effectual it would be to prevent the Designs of their Common Enemy the Pope of Rome, and of all other Sectaries. When this is done, he doubt's not but they will readily imitate a Society which has already inspired in them Respect, Love, & Admiration.

In answer to the Query about the Proselytes, he say's, that the Spaniard[1] ha's proved a Rogue, & withdrawn himself, but that they are well satisfied in the Sincerity of the Portugueze whose Character they have received from his own Countrey, and that we shall shortly have some of his Works. They dare not however trust him much, for they have been sometimes deceiv'd after Ten years Experience. Promise's to send an Abstract of the Christian Doctrine, translated from the Latin of Henry Allings, which he hope's may be useful to the Plantations. As also a Project of Union between the Lutherans & Calvinists, which the King of Prussia & the Elector of Hanover are now laboring for. He believe's it may not be impossible to settle a Correspondence in those Parts, Mr. de la Bergerie a French Minister at Hanover being desirous to know what is doing upon that occasion in England : but wishe's that it might be managed by Lay-men of Note & Learning. One Objection of the Dutch Gentlemen against a Correspondence is, that they find it difficult to write in French, and yet more in Latin, which they are not used to : but he ha's offer'd his Assistance in Translating their Letters upon occasion. Lastly, he desires the Secretaries Shortest Directions, & Concludes with his profound Respects to the Venerable & Holy Society.

286. Dr. Hutchinson, of S^{t} Edmunds Bury, in Suffolk, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 25, April, 1701. Say's that he was always of Opinion he could never promote the good Designs of the Society, unless men of Character and Influence would join with Him, whom he ha's found very backward, but hopes that the new Account of the Society may give them new Thoughts. That the Chief of their Town, and especially Mr. Harvey one of their Burgesses are considering how to employ and teach the Poor, and till that is over, he does not think fit to propose to them the Project of a Charity School. Says they have a Library in his Parish Church of an antient Foundation, Monthly Sacraments & full Congregations. That the Papists are almost one to Forty. That 2 or 3 Quakers have been lately Baptiz'd, but none of Note. That he ha's dispers'd some of Mr. Keith's Sheets among them, but can gain nothing by Disputes; find's them rather very obstinate & Disingenuous, of which he gives a notable Instance. Says that S^{r} John Holland, since the death of his Father, ha's left those parts.

287. Mr. W^{m} Johns, of Stroud, in Glocestershire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 26 April, 1701, heartily approves of the Designs of the Society, but his mean Abilities & Circumstances fetter a willing Mind. Excuses his medling with Affairs in Transmarine Parts, having so many objects

[1] Molinos, see foot-note, p. 315.

of Ignorance and Poverty at home. He know's not how to be a Member of a Society where he can't attend by reason of Distance, nor hear other mens Thoughts, nor propose his own; yet if he can be usefull by way of Correspondence, he is ready to embrace it, but would have none think of him above what he is.

288. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton-on-the-Hill, in Derbyshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 28 April, 1701. Says, That he ha's nothing of moment to impart to the Society, only that the Unkle of Mr. Gilbert, of Locko, ha's left a Legacy of £60 for the payment of £3 yearly to a Schoolmaster to teach 10 poor Children, and that they have built a School at Spoondon for the said use. They have no Charity-School, nor Workhouse, nor Society of the Clergy, nor Libraries, nor Monthly Sacraments, but few Papists, and some lately converted. That there is an old Man in his Parish whose Wife & Daughters are Papists but himself a Protestant, and so would his Grandson be if he would permit him. Desire's the Advice of the Society, what is to be done on this occasion. That the Quakers as well as other Dissenters do rather increase amongst them, and make many Proselytes among the poor people of the Peak who live remote from Churches, which for want of Tythes cannot be supplied as they ought, all which might, he says, be prevented if the Society would procure an Act of Parliament to allow all piously dispos'd Persons to give & settle Tythes for the Maintenance of poor Rectors & Curats notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain; that he is directed by a worthy Person to intreat the Assistance of the Society in this Matter, and to take it into their Speedy Consideration. That a Specimen of such a Bill, and an Account of the Case which occasion'd it shall be sent up as soon as he hear's from them. That some thing of the same nature ha's been projected by Dr. Dent, but he being retired into the Countrey, 'tis feared the Design is dropp'd, but if the said Doctor be known to any of the Society, he desire's they would procure and send him a Copie of that Bill. That there is but one Society for Reformation of Manners at Derby, compos'd of Dissenters, for the Churchmen refusd to join with them. That they meet with great Discouragements, the Justices refusing to accept the Printed Warrants & Neglecting to Record those that are Convicted; there appearing none since Michaelmas last. Wishe's that the Clergy were impower'd to punish Profane Swearing & Drunkenness. Hope's that when the Bishop Visits, the Designs of the Society may be set on foot again effectually among them. He hear's the Quakers have dispers'd a Sheet in Answer to Mr. Keith's.

289. Mr. James Smith, of Cottenham, in Cambridgeshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 28 April, 1701. Wishes he could return a Satisfactory Answer to the Enquiries of the Society. That the Countrey People are so far from contributing to the Charge of Schoolmasters, that they will not allow their Children to attend them, and that the poorest Sort have not leisure, whereof he gives an Instance in his own Parish.

290. Mr. John Lewis, of Acryse, in Kent, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 28 April, 1701. Says that they have no Charity Schools nor Work-

houses. That he ha's kept one School himself during 2 summers, and taught about 50 children. That 3 Ministers in Canterbury have monthly Sacraments, & one at S^t^ Johns in the Isle of Thanet. That there are but two Popish Families about them, my Lord [Strangford[1]] & S^r^ John Hales. That the Quakers rather decrease. That the People are generally ignorant, and but little Care to make them otherwise. That there is scarce a Minister but has 2 Livings, some 3 or 4; by which means Catechising is wholly neglected. That most of the Prebends of Canterbury have Livings in the Countrey, so that there are reckon'd 11 or 12 near him that are Non-Resident. That this and the Poorness of the Livings will effectually hinder all Societies of the Clergy, and so does also the Incroachments of Simoniacal Patrons. Notwithstanding all which, he believes the Clergy might do greater things than they do, if this Notion did not too much prevail among them, viz^t^ *That all their business lies in the Church, and that they have nothing to do out of it.* That the worst sort of Anabaptists are very numerous amongst them, and no care taken to prevent the Increase of them. That there is one Society for Reformation at Canterbury, and but two Justices that encourage the Design.

291. Mr. Tho. Shewell, from the Fleet, on board the Barfleur at Spithead, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 28 April 1701. Promise's to disperse the books & Papers of the Society amongst the Seamen. Say's there is no such thing as a Chaplain General in the Fleet, tho' highly necessary. That the service of God is wholly laid aside in some ships, by the Contrivance of the Seamen. That a Captain ha's commanded him in the middle of his Sermon to leave off in the King's name; and that he ha's desir'd him in God's Name to sit down & hear him. Propose's that it should not be in the Captains power to chuse what Chaplain he thinks fit. That such Chaplains that behave themselves well on board 4 years, should be promis'd encouragement on shore. That their Certificates should be necessary to all Persons in order to their Preferment. And lastly that the B^p^ of London be desired to send a Chaplain-General.

292. Mr. Ostervald, of Neuchâtel, in Switzerland, 6 April, 1701, to Mr. Masson, Says, That the Designs of the Society begin to be relish'd in his Countrey. That they have set up a School in Neuchâtel, but that at Bern they are not so well affected to these matters. That every body there that appear's for Reformation is branded with the name of Pietist. That some Divines are very rigid against the People so call'd. That their Temper may be guess'd at by the Censure pass'd on his Book *of the causes of the Corruptions that Reign among Christians*, viz. That it is a Dangerous book; That none are admitted into the Ministry or Magistracy 'till they abjure the Opinions of the Pietists (tho' they have not defin'd what are those new Opinions) & swear that they will shew no Favor to the Professors of them: and that they talk of tendring such an Oath to all the People. That the

[1] Vid. infra, Abstract, 297.

plainest Account that can be given of those Pietists is, that some of them are Enthusiastical, having fill'd their Heads with the Notions of Madam Burignon[1] & the Quietists, but that in General, and for the most part, they are Pious & Serious People and such as submit themselves both to the Church and State, differing in nothing from either but in leading a more Godly & Sober Life. That they begin to suspect him, & that one of his Friends wrote thus to him, *De Societate Anglica tibi gratulor, sed quid hoc? ipso nomine nobis suspectus es*, to which he answered, *si Christus ipse in terris versaretur incognito, etiam vobis suspectus esset.*

Ditto, 11 April, 1701. That he is translating the Communion Service used at Zurich, which is very like that in England. That the whole Body of Ministers met and agreed to disperse some hundreds of the Accounts received from England; and that they have desired & obtain'd of the Magistracy some further Laws against Vice, &c.

293. Mr. Arthur Bedford, of Bristol, 3 May, 1701, to the Secretary. Desires to know what Methods have been taken by the Society for Reformation of Manners to prevent Boys from playing in the Streets on the Lords day, & Men from spending their Time idly on the Change, in the Fields or elsewhere during Divine Service. Wishes that the Society for Reformation in London did hold a Correspondence with all others in England & Wales in Order to carry on the Work the better. In answer to the Societies Letter of the 11 April he saies, that Charity Schools goe on very Successfully in their Citty, that Subscriptions are made every where, even in Parishes that have no Poor of their own. That the Bishop ha's subscribed £5 & the Chancellor £40. That the Workhouses are very regularly maintain'd. That the Children amounting to 250 are taught the Principles of their Religion, to Read, &c. and obliged to frequent Public Prayers twice every day. That there is a Society of the Clergy in Bristol, & others in the Counties of Glocester and Somerset. That they have 3 Monthly Sacraments in their City, at the Cathedral, S[t] Nicholas, and S[t] Philips. That there are no Libraries lately erected among them nor likely, the Income of the Clergy being generally mean, excepting the Preferments in the Cathedral, which being in the Lord Keeper's gift, are generally bestow'd on such as are non-resident. That there is but one Papist in the City, and he a very sober Person. That since Mr. Keith was there, there have been no Converts from Quakerism: the reasons of which are, That he ha's not been Seconded, & that the Quakers having been alarm'd, make it their Business to hand about some of their subtilest Writers' as *Barclay's Apology*, *Dell's Works*, *The Truth of God held by Quakers*, *&c.* but especially by helping new Converts to good Matches. That the Society for Reformation continue's still, but visibly decrease's. That they have set up a Weekly Sacrament at

[1] Antoinette Bourignon, born 1616. She taught Quietist views, and was at first countenanced and protected by Fénélon. She finally had to leave France, and died in Friesland, 1680.

S^t^ Nicolas against Immorality, & that their Magistrats are very Zealous, &c. He reckons their Discouragements under these 4 Heads. 1. The Defect in our Law. 2. The frequent Aspersions against Informers. 3. Public Funds to fee Council against Informers. 4. The removing Causes to the King's Bench, &c. In order to obviate these he says, that the Magistrates resolve to conceal the Names of Informers. That their Society will raise a Fund againt the other, and that they will endeavor to bring back Causes by a *Supersedeas*, wherein Mr. Masson the Lord Chief Justice Holt's Clerk ha's been very serviceable.

294. Mr. Thomas Shewell, from on board the Barfleur, at Spithead, near Portsmouth, to Mr. Ch. 6 May, 1701. Says that S^r^ Cloudsley Shovell mightily approve's of the Societies Designs, & that he Mr. Shewell will procure a List from his Secretary of all the Ships that are at Spithead, and particularly those destin'd for the West Indies, and of the numbers of their men. That he will give Mr. Gubs his Share for Admiral Hobson's Division, and that as each man come's into the Steward's Room for the Mess of his Company, he will distribute the Books & Papers to them, &c. Lastly, promises the Concurrence of his Head, his Hand & Pocket to stem the Torrent of Vice & Atheism.

295. Dr. Nichols, of Selsey, in Sussex, to Mr. Ch. 6 May, 1701. Say's that extraordinary business call'd him out of Town before he could finish the Latin Letter which the Society Order'd him to draw up for the Ministers of Zurich, but that he sends it this Post to y^e^ B^p^ of Chichester.

296. Professor Francke, of Hall, in Saxony, to Mr. Ch. 29 April, 1701, N.S. Own's the Receipt of the Societies Letter dated the 25^th^ Febr. ult. and recommend's Mr. Andrew Kock, the Bearer, a Swede, & Governor to Count Waldeck, by whom he ha's sent a Printed Account of his School, which being in High Dutch, he desire's that Mr. Ludolf or Mr. Ch. may Abstract and Report it to the Society, wherein he say's those that want no Materials to carry on such Designs, can hardly conceive the infinite Difficulties which he met with in raising the School, which from very low beginnings about 6 years ago, ha's frequently experienced the Mercies & Providences of a bountiful God. That he earnestly expect's a farther account of the great Things lately done in England for the Support of the Poor, the Education of Youth, & the Extirpation of Public Vices, for as the first Account thereof being translated into High Dutch, ha's raised a good Spirit in many Parts of Germany: So, he doubt's not but the Progress & Continuation thereof will equally increase the Glory & Kingdom of God.

297. Mr. Lewis, of Acryse, near Canterbury, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 10 May, 1701. Say's that the Lord Strangford is the Popish Lord he meant in his last Letter. That S^r^ Tho. Hales is the fittest Person to attempt the Conversion of his kinsman S^r^ Edward. But question's his undertaking it, because he's a man of pleasure, &c. Wishe's that the

Parliament & Convocation would consider of the Neglect of Divine Worship, which he attribute's to the want of Churches in the Out-Parishes of London and in Market Towns, and to the slender Provision for the Ministry, complain's also of the general Neglect of a Christian Education of Poor Children, &c.

298. Not abstracted.

299. Mr. Tho. Thomas, of Carmarthan, to Mr. Chamb. 19 May, 1701. Say's that he defer'd answering the Societies Letter, of the 27 March, ult. 'till he had discours'd some of the chief Gentry about Schools & Workhouses, in the last of which nothing will be done without an Act of Parl[t] which they dayly expect, but of the first we shall shortly receive an Account by S[r] John Philips. That there is but one Society of the Clergy consisting of 11 Persons, no Libraries, few Monthly Sacraments, no Papists, & but few Quakers. There are some Societies for Reformation of Manners which have been so successful, that Drunkenness, Swearing, Profanation of the Lords day, &c. are generally suppress'd, and the State of Religion very much mended; no Discouragements but the want of a good Bishop which he heartily pray's for, &c.

300. Mr. Zach. Taylor, from Whitmore, to Mr. Ch. 19 May, 1701. Excuse's his Silence for want of Health, &c. Congratulates the Society for their choice of Mr. Horton, promise's a full Answer to the Societies Letter within 2 Months, during which time he is to attend the B[p] of Chester in his Visitation Say's there are two good Libraries in the North, one at Cartmell, t'other at Kendal which he will endeavor to get made Lending Libraries; and that if the Society would give some Encouragement to those Libraries, he would attempt the same thing at Manchester.

301. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton-on-the-Hill, in Derbyshire, to Mr. Ch. 19 May 1701. Thank's the Society for their kind & speedy Answer; Say's that Mr. Wilson of Morley is come up to London in Order to prosecute the Bill mention'd in his last. Say's that none of the Justices will engage in the work of Reformation except Mr. Thacher, & that Mr. Pole of Radburn would be very Instrumental if Application was made to him from the Society.

302. Mr. Blackwell, of Brampton, in Northamptonshire, to Mr. Ch. 19 May 1701. Says that they have no Charity-Schools nor Workhouses lately endowed, but that the Poor about them are employed much more than formerly in the Spinning Trade. That there is no Society for Reformation of Manners near them, but that the Society set up by the Bishop of Peterborough is still continued: and that it is of good Effect, not only for the Notice, but also for the Dispersing of good and useful Books among their Respective Parishioners. Suppose's Mr. King ha's accounted for the Library erected at Northampton. That it is hard to bring the People to Monthly Sacraments in Countrey Villages. That there are but few Papists, and but one Dissenter of any sort among them. That several of Doctor Bray's Sermons have

been dispers'd, & hopes to see a good effect thereof upon the Doctor's farther Addresses.

303. Mr. G. Drake & Mr. R[d] King, to Mr. Ch. from Exeter, 20 May 1701. That their main Endeavors have been exerted in the American Mission. That there are four Societies of the Clergy consisting of the Deaneries of Newton-bushel, Totness, Iplepen, & Chudleigh. That they shall shortly receive from one of them their Subscriptions towards a Missionary, and hope to excite the others to the same. That there are 3 Workhouses raised by Act of Parliam[t] at Exeter, Tiverton & Crediton, and that they wish the Society would use their Interest to procure a Clause in the general Poors Bill, that the Children may be brought up in the Church of England. That there are but few Papists, Quakers, Socinians, or Deists. That the Bulk of Dissenters consists of Presbyterians & Independents, who however have gain'd no ground of late. That there are no Charity-Schools, nor Societies for Reformation but if Application were made to the Bishops, they would not despair of either. That there are Monthly Sacraments in the Churches in their City, and a general Preparation Sermon by the Ministers in their Town. That they will next proceed upon Parochial Libraries if the Society will give them their Instructions, and send some of Dr. Bray's Pieces upon that Head.

304. Mr. Patrick Gordon, from on board the Swiftsure, at Spithead, 24 May, 1701. Promise's to consult with Mr. Shewel & Mr. Gubs as soon as the Societies Papers shall come down, and to distribute them throughout the Fleet; and desires to know what the Society ha's done about his Proposals for Propagating the Gospel in North-America.

305. Mr. Egerton Harding, of New Castle under Lyne, Staffordshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 20 May, 1701. Say's that in that town they have 2 Charity Schools for both Sexes, & well endowed, but not lately erected. That they have several Societies of the Clergy in the Neighbourhood, one of which was set up about a year since in his Town, consisting of about 16 Ministers who meet Monthly, have a Sermon & a numerous Congregation. That several of the Magistrates and Gentry have associated with them, and that there is a Visible Increase of Piety & Morality amongst them. That they have a Library pretty well stock'd, but want some Pious Tracts for the Poor who are well inclin'd & frequent the Sacraments that are Monthly administred. And lastly that there are no Papists or Quakers in the Town, and but few in the Neighbourhood.

306. Mr. Thomas Frank, of Cranfield, in Bedfordshire, 26 May, 1701, to Mr. Ch. Sends the Index to the book of Abstracts, & give's a short Account of it, and also a List of the Children of the School at Kempston, and of the books distributed amongst them, by Order of the Society, which, he says, ha's given a great Reputation to their Endeavors. That he ha's directed several Packets compos'd of the small Tracts against Vice and Immorality to divers Magistrates, as secretly as he could, and that if the like Method were observ'd by the

Correspondents throughout the Kingdom, the Design of Reformation would thereby be easily communicated, &c.

307. Mr. de Beringhen, from the Hague, 29 28 April, N.S. 1701. To Mr. Chamb. give's an account of the little Tracts & MSS. sent by him, viz. that the MSS. are short Specimens of the Wit of Fernandez the Portugese Proselyte, and the Printed Tracts of different Authors, viz. that the 5 Petitions & the Pastoral Letter are the last Works of Mr. Brousson the Martyr, the "Apology for the Reform'd" of Mr. Vallone a Proselyte, who ha's also printed an Account of his Conversion at his own Charges, of which Mr. de B. give's a great Character, & add's that he will send over a hundred Copies thereof in Order to reimburse the Author, finally begg's pardon for the Liberty he take's in this matter.

308. Mr. Robert Hales to Mr. Ch. from S^{t} Gall in Switzerland 19 May, 1701. Say's that he ha's receiv'd the Secretaries Letter of the 14 March, and that he shall proceed more heartily in his Designs since he finds them so acceptable here at home; that they are no less so in those parts where he now reside's, for that a pious & learned Divine at Zurich did preach before a large Synod of Divines lately, and did mightily exhort them to form themselves into Societies, wherewith they were so affected, that they have resolv'd to receive him (the said Mr. Hales) with a particular honor when he come's to that place. That Dr. Woodward's Account of Societies is much enquired after, that the people of Schaffhausen, Zurich & S^{t} Gall have given Commissions for the bringing a great many from Berlin where they were printed That he think's it therefore best to defer the Printing the Abridgement, lest the ordinary People should first set up Societies which will offend the Magistrates. That he thank's the Society for the offer of their Assistance, but hope's he shall carry on the translating & Printing of English Books without any charge to his Friends here. That Mr. Scherer as well as others do engage themselves with delight therein. That he is indefatigable, that his Translations are extremely well perform'd, and that he is about a new Edition of the Whole Duty of Man. Give's an Account of the Methods he uses in publishing our little English Tracts, viz. That he first Prints a small Number at his own Expense, and distribute's them whereever he goes to Persons noted for their Charity & Piety, as well as Ability, giving them an Account of the Good that ha's been done thereby in England & other parts; when he ha's engaged them into the same Designs, they print greater Numbers of them, w^{ch} they disperse among the Poor Gratis, and to those that can pay for them at very Reasonable Rates. That this is likewise a means of bringing Good men together, & of forming Societies. He again suggest's the great advantage of a public Correspondence between the Society & the Switz Divines. Wishe's that an Account of the Society were laid before the King. Applaud's the Design of the Society in regard to the Seamen, and hope's they will not forget the Land-Army. Give's an Account of the Facility of Conveying both Books & other Assistance to the French Protestants in the Gallies, but fear's that the

Approaching War will render it more difficult, as also of sending small Tracts to the Switz Soldiers in the French Kings Service. Intend's to disperse some of those godly Tracts amongst the Papists, and give's an instance how well they have been relish'd by them, 'till they discover'd that they were writ by Protestants, and of their Prejudice against them on that account only. Say's that at first, he was much suspected, and his Designs traduced, but when People came to enquire into the Truth, it turned much to his advantage, and they receiv'd him with the greatest Tenderness. He own's the Receit of the Societies Letter of the 24 March. Signifie's his Apprehensions of the Attempts of the Papists, & how much he ha's heard them threaten England. That he will publish amongst the Protestants of those Parts the tender concern our Church-Representatives have shewn for their Reformed Brethren. Give's a large Account of the great Veneration & Esteem our King is held in amongst them. That the books sent by the Society to Mr. Scherer are safely arriv'd, that he ha's already begun to translate Mr. Kettlewell's Book of Christian Obedience, and that Mr. Yeate's Book is already in the Press, of which he give's a great Character. That 30 of A.B^{p} Tillotsons sermons are translated into High Dutch, and B^{p} Burnets Exposition of the 39 Articles into Latin. That there ha's been held a Synod lately in S^{t} Gall of about 40 Ministers who have agreed to have the Children Catechised in 5 Churches, which was formerly done but in one. That as soon as Mr. Yeates's Book is printed he intend's to disperse that & others through Germany, whither he will carry with him Mr. Scherer's Son, but that first Mr. Scherer himself will make a little Tour with him (Mr. Hales) in the adjacent parts of Switzerland & the Grisons Countrey, where they are very ignorant. That the Printing-house at St. Gall ha's full employment with the Societies Books of Devotion, &c., and that some of their small tracts are likewise Printing at Zurich, Basil, Bern, and Neufchatel. That he sent lately one hundred little Books to the Switz soldiers in Holland. That the new Books are mightily enquired after. That the poor Countrey People tease him for them as earnestly as if he were to give them meat or clothing. And lastly, gives a most remarkable instance of a servant Maid that brought all she had in the world, about 24 Crowns, to the Society, in order to be laid out in printing Books of Devotion.

309. Mr. Vincent Edwards, from Alnwick in Northumberland, 22 May, 1701, to Mr. Ch., say's that his Packet was found in a Warehouse at Newcastle by Mr. Thomlinson, to whom he desires his letters may be directed for the future. That he hope's to procure leave from his Ordinary for Prayers & a Sermon at the Monthly Meetings. That he ha's dispers'd most of the Societies Books among his Brethren, who will send for more when they want them, but that he himself, having printed an Exposition on the Church Catechism, a short Persuasive to Prayer, with a Closet Prayer, and Prayers for a Family at Morning & Night, for the Lords day & Week days, shall furnish his Parish with his own little Pieces.

310. Mr. Ostervald, from Neufchatel, in Switzerland, to Mr. Masson, 23 May, 1701. Mention's what Letters he ha's writ lately, and particularly in which there was a Memorial of Mr. Fitsch, and an Extract of a Letter from Mr. Tronchin of Utrecht about the Uniting the Episcopals & Presbyterians, wherein he offer's to declare publickly his own Sense, and that of his Church, Expresse's his Sorrow for the Ill-Success of the Convocation. Give's a large account of what they are doing at Neufchatel in Religious Matters, viz[t] That they are setting up Schools every where, that they have printed a Collection of proper Scripture Texts which they distribute among the Poor, but that their chief Care is taken up in providing their Churches with good Ministers in relation to whom they have agreed upon some excellent Rules, such are

1. That their Young Students shall be obliged to spend, at the least, 4 years in the Study of Divinity.
2. That none shall be admitted to that Study till they are allowed to be fit for the Ministry.
3. That such as Game, keep Women company, or learn to Dance shall be judged uncapable.
4. That they shall bring from the Places of their abode, Testimonials of their Morals, &c. Promises to send the Liturgy of the Sacrament of the Church of Zurich, & censures that of the French Church as retaining nothing of Antiquity. Desire's a Character of Mr. Robert Hales, whom he expects shortly from S[t] Gall, & from whom he ha's receiv'd a Letter giving an Account of his Designs, &c. Finally expresse's his great Desire of Conversing with some Worthy Englishman.

311. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton-on-the-Hill in Derbyshire, to Mr. Chamberlayne, 4 June, 1701. Say's that Mr. Wilson who came up with the Bill which he formerly mention'd to the Society intended to have communicated it to them, but being obliged to a hasty return, ha's by the Directions of their Diocesan left it with the Marquis of Hartington, who ha's promis'd to bring it into the House. Lastly he hopes that the Society will use their Interest in both Houses for the Promoting of the same.

312. Mr. Scherer, of S[t] Gall, in Switzerland to Mr. Chamb. 10 Cal Jun. 1701. Own's y[e] Receit of the Societies Present of Books, & will speedily set about the Translation of them. That he has Translated Dr. Woodwards little Piece of the usefulness of Catechetical Instruction, which together with Brays Lectures on the Catechism, and the Example of what ha's been done in that kind by the Bedford & Buckinghamshire Ministers he says, ha's raised such a spirit, not only in their Anniversary Synod, but also in the Magistrates themselves, that at the Request of the Ministers, they have made a public Order about Catechizing, which was receiv'd with great Applause, and is wholly owing to the Divines of England. Exhort's the Society to go on in their laudable Enterprises, & promises that he will Translate all their books with all the Fidelity & Exactness

he is capable of. That Mr. Hales ha's gain'd so great Esteem amongst them, that the chief Ministers of Zurich have deputed one of their own Body to invite him thither. That, as soon as Mr. Yeates's Book of Reformation come's out of the Press, he intends to make a Tour with Mr. Hales, & visit the chief of the Helvetian Churches, and give the Society an Account of their Success. Recommend's to the Society the case of Captain Wertmyller, born at Zurich, and related to the chief Families there, as a Person that ha's served against the French at the siege of Namur, &c. Say's that his Commission was taken away from him, under pretence that he was not a Switzer, tho' the contrary can be well attested. Desire's the Society to represent the matter to his Majesty, or at least to use their Interest with the Earl of Albemarl, General of all the Switz Forces in the Service of the States General, & concludes how grateful it will be to the whole Senate of Zurich.

313. Archdeacon Boothe, from Easington in Durham, to Mr. Ch., 6 June, 1701, Says that he ha's been lately at Chester, where there are Religious Societies compos'd both of Churchmen & Dissenters, but fears that they will not do much, unless the B^p^ of Chester would please to call upon them. That there is a Society lately erected at Warrington, headed by Mr. Shaw, the Minister of the Place, & Mr. Blackbourn, a Neighbouring Justice of Peace. Gives a good Character of them, and wish's that the Society would write to them both. That there are three setled Presbyterian Meetings in his Jurisdiction, but not frequented by any Persons of Note. That the Independants are very Inconsiderable, and joyn with the Presbyterians. That all the Anabaptists in his Jurisdiction do not exceed 150. That the Quakers are very numerous in all the Trading Towns. At Darlington there are 20 Families; at Stockton 30; at Sunderland 30; at Staindrop 12, &c. That the Papists are the most formidable of all the Dissenters, both for Quality & great Estates. That in Est Chapelsey there are 27 Families; in Branspeith Parish 20; in Conscliffe 13; and in Durham a great number. That the Clergy of his Jurisdiction are very Regular; that there is Catechising in every Church, and Prayers on Holy-days, Wednesdays & Fridays, and in some places daily. That the Act of Parliament against Adultery, &c. and the Proclamation against Immorality are read regularly, and that there is a particular Care taken of the Colliers.

That many Irregularities are reform'd, and the Lords day strictly observed in all the great Towns, and that his Instructions to the Clergy to propose their young People in Lent for the Sacrament at Easter have been duly followed.

That they have a Charity School begun at Durham, but no Workhouses. That they have no Clergy-meetings nor Lending Libraries. That Monthly Sacraments have been lately set up with great Success in several Noted Places, & hope's that no Considerable Parish will shortly want them. That several Quakers have been reconciled to the Church lately. That they have no Societies for Reformation, but if

any of the Bishops that are in our Society would engage my Lord of Durham to write to him about them, he doe's not doubt, he says, but that he could Set up both them & Clergy Meetings in a very few Weeks.

314. Mr. James Harries, of Llantrissent, in Glamorganshire, 12 June, 1701, to the Secretary. Own's the Receipt of the last Printed Papers from the Society. Recommend's Mr. George Howells a Justice of Peace & a very Zealous Person, as a Lay Correspondent with the Society. Say's that Catechetical Lectures are promoted in Divers Places. That the Psalms of David have been sett to good Tunes by some private Hands, & able Ministers have taught them to the People with great Advantage. That several of his Parishioners who are above 5 Miles distant from the Church, do neither frequent his nor any other Assembly. That upon Discourse with the most Sensible of them, he find's a spice of Atheism or Indifferency run's thro' the Family, and has done so for some Generations; and desire's the Societies Advice in this matter. Lastly, wishe's that the Lord Keeper could be induced to put 3 or 4 of their Clergy into the Commission of the Peace, as ha's been done in other Counties.

315. Mr. N. Ellison, of Newcastle, 13 June, 1701, to the Secretary. Sends a Bill of £6. 1s. 4d. for Dr. Bray's books, by which, when they are all sold, he shall be gainer, he says, £5. 18s. which he promise's to lay out in Books for the use of a poor Curacy. That their Societies are but just a Forming, & when any thing is done by them, he will communicate it to the Society.

316. (Lay) Mr. John Gibson, of Welbourn, in Yorkshire, 16 June, 1701, to the Secretary. Return's his Thanks for the 2 last Printed Papers sent him by the Order of the Society. Say's that he Read them with great Pleasure, & sent Mr. Lisle of Gisborough those belonging to him. That the said Mr. Lisle is very uneasy in his Ministry, being maligned by his Brethren in Cleveland, who count that Drudgery which he call's Duty. That he ha's Dayly Prayers & Catechising, but doubts whether there are 2 more that do the same. Lastly, mentions, a small sum he ha's sent up, which S^r^ W. Hustler will account for.

317. Mr. Sam. Wesley, of Epworth, 16 June, 1701, to the Secretary. Own's the Receipt of the Societies Letter dated 25th of March; excuses his long silence. Say's that he has been labouring Ten years to carry on the business of Reformation, & the greatest part of last year in a small Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, with very little Success; but hopes he shall not despond. That he ha's some Expectations from the Society of 10 or 12 Clergymen, & that he ha's taught the Children of his own Parish near 2 years. Gives a particular Account of the number of Souls in each Town of their Island, viz., that there are above 1,100 Persons in Epworth, the Market Town & Center of the Isle; that all the Towns together make up about 7,000 Souls; that there is no Public School in his own Parish, nor in most of the others. That it would be a mighty Advantage if a Charity School

could be set up in Epworth, and the Poor of other Parishes allow'd to send their Children thither Gratis. That the People are so extreme Ignorant, that not one in 20 can say the Lords Prayer right, nor one in 30 the Belief. That he ha's about 100 under his Care, and that he give's the Profits of those that pay for their Learning, amounting to £10 or £12, to an honest man that assist's him. That such a Charity-School might be procur'd if Coll. Whitchcott would Interest himself therein. And he doubt's not of his Engaging, if Dr. Hayley, who married the Sister to his Lady, & Daughter to S^r^ Tho. Meers, would put him upon it. That their Society on the South-side of Trent have resolv'd to Catechise their Parishes all the somer-half-year, and have begun already. That one day in y^e^ Week he setts apart for examining Servants & adult Persons that have not yet been at the Sacrament. That their numerous Poor want Bibles and all other good Books, but none will supply them. That he ha's procured them at his own Cost some Pastoral Letters, Christian Monitors, &c. That there is a noble Workhouse erected at Hull, & a Society for Reformation. That he went over to them lately, & preach'd upon the occasion. That there are great things doing in Nottinghamshire, where they have already fix't Salaries for Schools in every Parish. That he shall have a large Account of their Proceedings, & will Transmitt it to the Society, if desired. Complains that he stands alone in this great Work; that among 7,000 Souls, there is hardly one that will heartily assist him, and beg's the Prayers, Advice, & continual Correspondence of the Society, which, he says, is the greatest Comfort he ha's in this World. That he ha's sett up Monthly Sacraments, but ha's not above 20 Communicants at them. That there are no Papists nor Presbyterians in his Parish. That there about 40 Quakers, & above 70 Anabaptists that insult him every where, and about 100 of little or no Religion. That Mr. Smith of Gainsborough ha's had no letter from the Society, that if one was written to him, he would return an Account that would be very Acceptable; and that if he would engage therein & bring in S^r^ Willoughby Hickman with him, They two could influence half the Countrey.

318. Mr. W. Johns, of Stroud, 23 June, 1701, to the Secretary. Own's his Receit of the Societies letter of the 22 May, but wants the Packet therein mention'd. Gives an Account of the Methods he ha's used with his Parishioners to bring them off from their gross Ignorance of Divine matters, viz. by plain preaching, Catechising the Poor & their Children, Visiting particular Families, and dispersing good Books among them, according to his Ability, and that he never past by any House or Persons upon the account of their differing from him in Religious Matters. That the Effect hereof ha's been the setting up of a Religious Society, which ha's been on foot these 2 or 3 years. That they are but Few yet very good. That about twelve months ago, the was a Society Erected for distributing good Books, & teaching the poor Gratis, and that they are in a good Method; but that two things make the work difficult, viz. the Distance of Places and the Multitude of

Poor People. Lastly, desires his Packets may be sent by the Clothiers in Friday or Bread-street.

319. (Lay) Mr. Joshua Horton, of Chaderton, 4 April 1701, to the Secretary. Say's that in many Places Religion looks with a better face, & Debauchery less impudently than formerly. Greatly commends the Zeal of the Clergy in those parts. That some Parts of the County abound with Papists, but that there are but few in his Neighbourhood. That the Quakers are numerous, but don't increase. That many of the Magistrates seem resolv'd to execute the Laws strictly against Vice but the People are unwilling to Inform. That Divisions and Animosities frustrate the Design of Setting up Societies. And that there are Parish Libraries Setting up in the Neighbouring parts of Yorkshire, where his Estate lies, which he will particularly Incourage.

320. Mr. Thomas Shewell, from on board the Barfleur, at Spithead, 7 July, 1701, to the Secretary. Decline's medling with the Papers sent down for the Seamen, lest Mr. Sands the Chaplain to S^r^ George Rook should resent it: and desire's the Society will order them to be deliver'd to the said Mr. Sands.

321. Mr. Sam. Wesley, of Epworth, to the Secretary, 10 June, 1701, own's the great Favor of the Society in Sending him a List of the Books & Papers by them dispers'd, & permitting him to choose such as he want's: and desires a few of the following Sorts, viz. 1. Acc^t^ of Charity Schools. 2. D. Woodward's Sermons on the same subject. 3. Forms of Subscription, & 4. Orders of Schools. 5. Dr. W.'s Acct^s^ of Religious Societies. 9. Account of the Workhouses at Bristol. 10. Acc^t^ of the French Protestants sufferings in the Gallies. 11. History of the Societies for Reformation. 12. Help to a National Reformation. 13. Vindication of Informers. 14. Caution to Profane Swearers, tho' there are but a few such in his Parish. 15. Persuasive to the Observing the Lords Day. These, he says, are extremely wanted among them. 17. Christians Daily Devotion. 21. Keith's Serious Call to the Quakers. Say's farther that if he could get a Dosen of the Abstracts of the Laws against Immorality, &c., the Broad sheets, these he would cause to be Pasted in the Alehouses, and one in the Market place. Promise's to send shortly an Account of the Workhouse of Hull, and wait's impatiently to see what Dr. Hayley will do with Coll. Whitchcott. Lastly, send's inclosed a large Acc^t^ of the Orders for Charity Schools in Nottinghamshire, the Form of Subscription of the Nobility & Gentry of that County, and a List of the Persons Names, & of the several Sums by them Subscribed.

322. S^r^ Francis Molineux, from Teversall, 14 July, 1701, to the Secretary: Signifies his Concern that his Letter, writ some time since, should never come to hand, which, though it was of no moment, he says, yet was an Argument of his Respect, and an Acknowledgement of the Societies Favour to him. Is very sensible of the Glory of their Undertaking, & of the Necessity of it, there being such an universal Degeneracy of Morals. That the Difficulty of succeeding ought to be no Discouragement, & for his part, 'tis what he ha's endeavored,

& what he shall continue to do to the utmost of his Power, & will join both his Actions & Prayers for a Blessing on such Undertakings.

323. Mr. Patrick Gordon, from on board the Swiftsure, at Spithead 15 July, 1701, to the Secretary, say's that Mr. Shewel had acquainted him that the Society had sent down some Papers to be dispers'd among the Seamen, & directed to him; but at the same time declared he would meddle no more in those matters. That thereupon he (Mr. Gordon) had taken the box of books into his own Custody, & would keep them 'till he knew the Pleasure of the Society. That among the Pastoral Letters there were 100 in Welsh, which, with the leave of the Society, he thinks to send into Wales. That he cannot learn what S^r George Rook ha's done with those Papers that were put into his hands, and that Mr. Sands, S^r George's Chaplain, declines medling with the Papers last sent, without directions from the Society. That he wish's the Society would send him a Letter, & another to S^r George, unless they shall think fit to take other Measures upon the coming down of a Chaplain-General. Lastly, that he ha's never received the Societies Opinion of his Proposals for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians of North-America.

324. The Lord B^p of Chester, from Wigan, 18 July, 1701, to the Secretary, say's that he is return'd to Wigan where he shall stay till September, having finish'd the Visitation of his Diocess, in which he ha's particularly recommended to his Clergy the Erecting Societies of discreet, sober, & pious Persons for the Reformation of Manners; & in great & populous Towns for setting up Charity Schools. That some of each are already sett up, that he hopes there will be more, & will give an Account of them. That there is but little hopes of the School at Liverpool, by reason of the Charges the Inhabitants are involv'd in, by building a Church & house for their Minister. That nothing can be done neither at Kendal about a Lending Library, that Town being engag'd in another Public Work; but that the Mayor & Minister have promis'd to erect a Society for Reformation. Lastly, that he find's his Clergy very diligent in discharging the Duty of Catechising.

325. Commissary Bennett, from Port Royal in Jamaica, 11 May, 1701, to the Secretary. Own's the Receit of the Societies Letter, & thanks the Society for accepting his sincere Endeavors, as an earnest of which he Transmitt's a Copy of what has been done in that Island, pursuant to the Designs of the London Society. That his Excellency the Governor being at some Miles Distance, he know's not how he will Answer the Letter to him; but in generall that he is very sensible of the Honor confer'd on him by the Society in choosing him a Correspondent; and that the Clergy are secure of his stedfastness. That as to Dr. Bray, he ha's recover'd several of the Books design'd for the Library of Port-Royal, & desires a compleat Catalogue of them. Lastly, being resolv'd to answer all the Societies by the Oxenden, Elias Pearce Master, newly arrived, he Apologise's for the shortness of this.

326. (Lay) Mr. De Beringhen from the Hague, 22 July, 1701, N.S., to the Secretary. Say's that he is sensible of the Desire of the Society

to facilitate a Correspondence with the Dutch, to which they have no Aversion, but are frightned with the name of a Society, & think that the business of Printing books, & a Commerce of Letters doe's not require it, especially since he & Mr. Jurieu[1] have been able hitherto to carry on such a Correspondence, & that they offer to bear a share in the Charges. Hope's, however, that when the Account of Societies for Reformation of Manners (which is now Printing at Roterdam) shall appear, he may be able to persuade them. That he intend's to lay some of the said Books before the 3 Tables of their Sovereigns. Thanks the Society for their Kindness to Mr. Vallone, and desire's the Money may be return'd to Mr. Stanhop, the English Envoy, &c. That since Mr. Vallone ha's left the Abbey of St. Genevieve (in which there are more Men of Quality than in any other town in France), Five other Prebendaries are come from thence, viz^t, M^rs. Gagnier, De la Heuse, De la Valette, Aubert, & Boulon, besides Mr. D'Argenteuil, that left that place 8 or 9 years ago; and that they hope great things from that Society, composed of Learned Men, & such as have an Abhorrence of Popery. Flatter's himself, he says, that such Proselytes (if there were a Toleration in France, would very much forward the Conversion of Papists in France), and that his Meditation on the 11th Chap. of the Revelations confirm's him in that Opinion, & refer's to the Book concerning *The Two Witnesses*, to write upon which subject, Mr. Vallone, he says, seem's to be born. Wishes that his book was Read by the B^p of Worcester & the other Prelates that understand French. Lastly, send's a Copy of the Memorial composed by Mr. Benoist in order to engage the Dutch Gentlemen to enter into a Correspondence with the English Society.

327. (Lay) Mr. Elias Neau, from New-York, in America, 3 June, 1701, to the Society. Own's the Receit of their Letter of the 20 Octob. Praise's God for their great Examples of Piety, & humbles himself under the Consideration of his own Unworthiness. Promise's to promote Purity of Manners & of Faith to the utmost of his Power, & as far as his worldly Circumstances will give him leave. Say's that he ha's communicated the Letter & Papers to several English & French Gentlemen, particularly to Mr. Vesey, an English, & Mr. Peiret, a French Minister, who seem to be well disposed. But as to Mr. Vesey, he intend's to write to the L^d B^p of London about it, before he engage's in it, lest he should be accused of Novelty; and that the rest are willing enough to join with him, provided the Governor and Laws will Authorise them. That the Death of the Lord Bellamont will be some hindrance to their Affairs, it having caused a great Ferment among the People. That the English & French unite against the Dutch, who, only in the life-time of the late Governor, were put into Places. That the Countrey is so poor, that it will be difficult to sett up Schools among them, tho' every body give's their Children some

[1] Peter Jurieu, born 1637 in France; died at Rotterdam 1713. A most active Protestant and voluminous writer.

kind of Education. That the little Tracts should be translated into the three Common Languages of the Countrey, English, Dutch, & French. Lastly, he is sorry, he says, that the Conversion of the Quakers in Pensylvania is so much exaggerated, and wishe's there were but one hundred sincere Proselytes.

328. (Lay) Mr. Elias Neau, from N. York, 13 June, to the Society. Joyfully offer's himself to be employ'd by them in the promoting their excellent Designs. Hope's that the little Tracts of Devotion sent by the Society may in time do good, the Countrey being full of People that live without Religion, but that the Divisions occasioned by the L^d^ Bellamont between the English, French, & Dutch, doe's a great deal of mischief. That the said Lord excited those Troubles, hoping to make his Advantage by them, but that God had taken him at last out of this world. That there are many Sects among them y^t^ have no public Meetings. That Mr. Vesey will write to the B^p^ of London for his Lordships Approbation, least he should be taken for a Schismatic or Heretic. That Mr. Peiret and Mr. Bassett, th' one a French Minister, th' other a Physician, are ready to join with him. That if a Governor would interest himself in these matters, a great many would join with him. That the Society ha's been imposed on by the Accounts of the Conversion of Quakers, there being but a few truly converted, & those which are live in great Remissness. That they are so far from being able to sett up Schools, that they can't maintain their Ministers, and that there are several places in the Countrey where there are none. That they are overwhelm'd with Taxes, & that their Governors drain them. That as he himself is a Churchwarden of a French Church at York, he willingly consent's to a strict observation of Discipline, but that there are so many Incorrigible men among them, that they laugh at Excommunicators and Excommunications. That these are their own terms, and therefore he intreat's the Society last of all to procure more Power and Authority, in Order to Abate the Haughtiness of these Transgressors.

329. Mr. Gelieu, Dean & Minister of Neufchâtel, in the Name of the whole Body of Divines of that Government, to the Society, 12 June, 1701. Says, that as they look upon our King to be the great Restorer of the Liberties of Europe : So they consider the Society as the Restorers of Piety & Good Manners, and that the Honor it ha's done them to choose one of their Members a Correspondent, & to write to their whole Body, ha's redoubled their Zeal of imitating such an example. That they are exceeding sensible of these Marks of the Societies Goodness, & that they will fervently apply themselves to Dissipate Ignorance & combat Error, & to revive the Languishing Charity of Christians. That they have always had a profound Respect for the Church of England, & that they have long'd for an opportunity of entring into a Correspondence with some of her Members ; & lastly, that they will ever pray for her prosperity.

330. Mr. Rich. Bynnes of Cheadle to the Secretary, 26 July, 1701. Accept's the Correspondence ; says that he is in the neighbourhood

of a great many poor ignorant People that want Reformation, and that he will contribute all that in him lies to promote the Good & Generous Designs of the Society.

331. Mr. John Tatam, of Sutton on the Hill, 2 Aug. 1701, to the Secretary. Says that he ha's made it his business, pursuant to the desires of Dr. Bray, in his *Reasons for his Return into England*, to look out for Workmen for him. That he ha's found two young men, a Bricklayer & Carpenter, that are willing to go to the Plantations, but want to know the Terms, &c.

332. Mr. A. Smythe of Gainsburgh, 19 Aug. 1701, to the Secretary. Denie's that any of the Societies Letters ever came to his hands 'till that of the 24 July, 1701. Own's the great Occasion of Reformation and of Propagation of Christian Knowledge, & accepts the Correspondence.

333. Mr. James Harries, of Llantrissent, 10 Aug. 1701, to the Secretary. Say's that John Arnold, Esq., a Justice of Peace in Monmouthshire, would be very zealous in Promoting the Business of Reformation, if he had any of the Societies Papers relating to the Suppression of Vice & Immorality; & if he was writ to, ha's promis'd to Correspond with the Society. Complain's that the great Age & Distance of their Diocesan is an hindrance to them in the Carrying on their good Designs, and that he ha's not exercis'd his Episcopal Function, especially in Ordination & Confirmation of Children, for several years, which Omission he wishes the A. B^{p} would please to supply.

334. Mr. Will. Thorold, Minister of an English Church at Roterdam in Holland, to Mr. Hodges, 14 July, 1701. Desire's him to thank the Society for choosing him a Correspondent, & promise's to comply with any Instructions they shall give him. Says that he can give but a little Account as yet of the smal Flock whereof he ha's the Charge. That they have no Establishment, & little Encouragement to hope it.

335. Mr. John Foster, of Deverel-Longbridge, near Warminster, in Wiltshire, 12 Aug. 1701, to the Secretary. Own's the Receit of Three Circular Letters from the Society, which he ha's not Answered sooner, because he could not 'till lately get an Opportunity to communicate the Design to his Bishop, and got his Express Approbation, &c. Gives an acc^{t} of what he ha's been doing many years in his own Parish, viz., that he sett up a Small School, & continued it some time at his own Charges. That he employ's every Sunday Afternoon in Instructing Young Persons in the Principles of the Christian Faith & Practice, according to the Method of the Church Catechism. That he give's his People constant Opportunity of Holy Communion every Lords day. That this Practice take's with some, but that others oppose it because their neighbours do not the like. That he ha's promoted the Meetings of some of his Brethren this 12 years, in Order to engage them in the like measures. That he was used modestly & tenderly to suggest the Great Benefit of such a Practise to them, but that since he ha's heard of a Society that ha's acted with so much Vigor, Reso-

lution, & great Success, he ha's been continually gaining ground, tho but slowly, both with Clergy & Laity. That in Concurrence with the Hon^ble^ Society and their Directions, he ha's gain'd these Points :— 1. He ha's set up a Society within his own Parish, of Elderly People, Zealous & Able; that the Substance of their business is the Promoting Piety among themselves, Reformation of Manners in their Neighbours, & a Godly Education of Youth. 2. In Subordination to this, there is another Society of younger Persons, whom he meets every Saturday Evening in the Church, & prepares them for the Celebration of the Lords day, Confirmation, & Communion. 3. That under these two there is a School form'd for Educating Poor Children, who are obliged to attend Divine Service once a day, and that a Stock is rais'd for them from the Offertory. That the Society of the Clergy in his neighbourhood does at present consist of but 7 Persons ; that they are concocting Measures to enlarge their Numbers, which they will extend both to the Laity & Clergy, & afterwards will recommend a Lay-Correspondent. Lastly, that he ha's dispers'd Dr. Bray's Sermons, but know's not what the Success thereof will be as yet.

336. Mr. W^m^ Hodges, Chaplain General to the Fleet, from on board the Triumph at St. Hellens, 16 Aug., 1701, to the Secretary. Own's the Rec^t^ of his Letter, & of the Books & Papers sent to Mr. Gordon, which, with those deliver'd him by S^r^ G. Rook, amounted to the number of 8,000, and consisted of 9 different sorts, which being distributed thro' the Fleet, would come to one Book or Paper for every two Seamen, whose number, he say's, is about 15,000. That S^r^ George & he being both of opinion y^t^ the West India Squadron ought to be comprised in the Dividend (because they might probably stay a long time abroad, & be shifted from one ship to another), he also gave them their Share, notwithstanding they had been so largely supplied by the Society beforehand. That S^r^ George had called all the Captains on board first, and afterwards the Chaplains, and caused Mr. Hodge's Commission to be Read to them. And that he took that Opportunity to give the Chaplains their Quotas. That where there were no Chaplains he recommended the Care of this matter to the respective Captains ; and concludes that he shall thankfully receive the Advice & Instructions of the Society.

337. Mr. Peter Smith, of Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire, to the Secretary, 19 Aug. 1701. Own's to the Rec^t^ of a Letter from the Society of the 25 of March last, which he did not answer sooner because he had nothing worth writing. Say's that some of the Clergy keep up a Monthly Meeting, and that they have provided their People with useful Books. That such as are able pay for the Schooling of Poor Children. That there is a Library begun at Kimbolton. That Mr. Downes, the Rector of Bring, near Northampton, would be an useful Man, if the Society would make him a Correspondent, &c.

338. S^r^ George Wheler to the Secretary, Durham, 22 Aug. 1701. Desires that his Letter, as 'tis now Corrected, may be Entered into the Societies Book. Say's that he ha's spoke to the Dean of Durham,

who promis'd to subscribe Ten Guineas toward the Charges of the Charter, and that A. Deacon Boothe will send up his Subscription ; and lastly, desire's some Printed Copies of the Charter to disperse among the Northern Gentlemen.

339. Mr. W^m^ Johns of Stroud in Gloucestershire, 23 Aug. 1701, owns the Receit of his Letter of the 1 July, thankfully accepts the Societies offer of assisting him with some of their Papers and small Tracts, of w^ch^ he acknowledges the usefullnesse, and names the several sorts wherewith he desires to be provided, see the Letter, lastly gives his Carriers Directions.

340. S^r^ W^m^ Beeston Gouvernor of Jamaica, 27 May 1701, to the Secretary acknowledges the Necessity of Societies for propagating Christian Knowledge and for Suppressing Vice and Immorality, Thanks the Society for Inviting him into those Designs, takes it to be a great Honor to him, and promises to give the Clergy of his Island all the assistance he is able. As a mark of his approbation of the Societies Proceedings sends a Note for Ten Pounds and will readily Contribute more as there shall be Occasion. Lastly, prays God to increase the Number and Stock of the Society.

341. Mr. Arthur Bedford of Bristol, 3 Sept. 1701, to the Secretary, says that he formerly writ to the Secretary about the Study of the Hebrew Language, which he complains to be much neglected of late, notwithstanding its great usefullnesse in Divinity, its Affinity to the other Oriental Languages, and the great Commendations given of it by Arch Bishop Usher, Erpenius,[1] Buxtorf,[2] Dr. Walton,[3] Junius,[4] &c., particularly represents the Bad Consequences of the Neglect of this Study in Relation to our Disputes with the Jews, who have been very Instrumental in the increase of Socinianism, Deism, &c., and who by studying the Original Language of the Old Testament are able to bafle those that produce no better Authority then a Translation ; if the Society pleases, he offers to impart his Thoughts farther on this Head. Lastly, desires the Secretary to acquaint some of the Members of the Society for Reformation of Manners that he has received their Parcels, &c.

342. Dr. Todd of Penrith in Cumberland, 8 September, 1701, to the Secretary, says that he has received all the Papers that were sent him, and has communicated them as desired. That of the many Thousand Books distributed in that Diocese, and which chiefly related to the H. Sacrament, *almost every one of them has brought a Com-*

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[1] Thomas Erpenius (1584–1624) a distinguished Orientalist, born at Gorcum, in Holland.

[2] The celebrated John Buxtorf, jun., born at Basle 1599, where he was afterwards Professor of Oriental Languages. He died 1664.

[3] Brian Walton, Bishop of Chester, born, 1600; died, 1661. His great work was the "Biblia Polyglotta."

[4] F. Junius, the translator, along with Tremellius, of the Latin version of the Old Testament which goes by their names. Born, 1545 ; died, 1602.

munícant to Church more then usual, and that there is a visible Reformation of Manners everywhere. That he has prevailed to have a Society formed as a Vestry, that there are 3 or 4 Justices concerned in it, that some of the Chief of the Clergy have engaged themselves to Preach monthly where there are no Sermons, to the great Satisfaction of People who Flock to them mightily and have encreast their Curates Salaries. That he reads the Act of Parliament of the King's Proclamations against Vice, &c., and preaches sutably to the occasion. Thanks the Society for sending him the Paper of the Clergy in Jamaica, &c., and says that the only Reason of his Brothers stay there is to be serviceable to the Society and the Interest of Religion in that Place; gives his service to Dr. Bray and owns the receit of his Papers, and wishes the Publick could be brought into his Designs, which are not only too great for any Private Person but even for the whole Clergy.

343. The L^d^ B^p^ of Chester from Wigan, Lancashire, 10 Septemb., 1701, to the Secretary, Recommends two Correspondents for Nampt-wich, viz., Mr. Lancaster a Clergyman, and Mr. Aldersay a lay-man, who has been many yeares a Justice of Peace. Sends a Bill for Five Pounds towards the Charges of the Charter. Lastly, sayes that the work of Reformation goes on well at Wigan, and that a School for 40 poor Children is lately erected at Manchester.

344. Mr. Jno. Tatam of Sutton-on-the-Hill in Darbyshire, 10 Sept., 1701, to the Secretary, says that he is glad to hear y^e^ Pious Designs of y^e^ Society have met with so public an encouragement as to obtain a Charter whereby y^e^ objection of illegality made use of by many is taken away. Wishes that the Society would write to his Diocesan, who intends to meet his Clergy the 3d of next month at Darby. Insinuates how usefull it would be if each Minister would form a Society out of the most Substantial men of his Parish, for the Propagating X^an^ Knowledge and suppressing Vice and Immorality. Complains of y^e^ Lamentable Ignorance of the Northern Parts of Darbyshire, occasioned by the smalnesse of the Clergies Maintenance. Desires the Secretary to acquaint y^e^ Corporation for Promoting the Gospell in forrein Parts that there are 2 young men, Good Mechanicks, y^t^ would go into y^e^ Plantations upon due Incouragement, &c. See his former Letter.

345. Mr. Samuel Shaw of Warrington, in Lancashire, 25 Aug., 1701, to the Secretary, Returns Thanks for the Surprizing Honor the Society has confered on him and accepts the Correspondence. Says that ever since it has fallen to his Lott to be the Schoolmaster (as well as Minister) of that Town, for the Maintenance of himselfe and his family (the Church being stript of the great Tythes for 40 yeares to come, and he not putting his Parishioners upon Contributions) he has endeavoured to cultivate the morals of young Persons committed to his Charge, besides which, he maintains an Usher at his own Cost to teach Poor Children to read, write, and their Catechism; that he himself Catechises weekly in y^e^ School, and on the Lord's

Day, to which end he drew up a Small Piece, intituled Advice to Young Persons relating both to Faith and Practice, and distributed it freely to his Parishioners and Scholars. Approves of the Societies endeavor of Propagating Religion in Forreign Parts, and wishes that their Parish were able to contribute towards the Charge of Libraries, but adds that they have expended above £1,000 lately on their steeple, &c. Lastly, says he shall be thankfull to the Society for any farther Directions.

346. Mr. David Heart, from Portsmouth, 16 Sept, 1701, to the Secretary. Congratulates y^e^ Society ab^t^ the Charter, and Desires to see a Copy of it. Recommends Mr. Henry Stanyford as a Gentleman that has been very Instrumental in the Businesse of Reformation of Manners, and wishes y^t^ he were made known to some of the Members of that Society, &c.

347. Mr. Patrick Gordon, from on bord the Swiftsure in Torbay, 17 September, 1701, to the Secretary. Says that he frequently thinks upon his voyage to America in order to propagate Christian knowledge among the Native Indians, Proposals for which he formerly printed, and being now ab^t^ to publish a New Edition of his Geographical Dictionary he desires that the Society would examin and correct those Proposals, and, as it is a matter of great moment, hopes that the Society will furnish him with ample Instructions concerning it.

348. Mr. Ostervald of Neufchatel in Switzerland, 17 Sept., 1701, to the Secretary. Says that he has not heard that y^e^ Letter (which the Body of their Divines returned by their Dean, Mr. Gelieu, in answer to one from the Society) has been received. Repeats w^t^ he formerly writ to Mr. Masson relating to y^e^ Forming of young Ministers for Holy Orders, see his letter. Approves mightily of the Societies Letters to Zurich, &c., of which he has seen a Copy. Says that little can be done in Reforming of Manners as long as men's minds are divided, w^ch^ will be whilst they dispute, and whilst the External parts of Worship and Religion are different, however, People begin to free themselves from Prejudices daily, and things look as if a new Portion of the Spirit of God did spread itself everywhere. That in the State of Neufchatel they begin to discover the Imperfections in their Worship, but that in so nice a point they must proceed leasurely. That the greatness and merit of y^e^ Lord's Spiritual and Temporal that compose the Society silences some of their Rigid Divines. Commends Mr. Tronchin of Geneva, as also Mr. Zeller of Zurich, to manage a Correspondence at Basel; he recommends Mr. Samuell Verenfels, whose Learning, Judgement, and Goodness he extols very much, particularly says that he is printing in Holland his Theses of Logomachies, that he earnestly labors for the Reconciliation of Protestants, and in order thereto has drawn up a Piece w^ch^ he calls *De Pace Protestantium*, and has taken a Journy thro' the Chief Cities of Swisserland on the same Account. Gives an Acc^t^ of the means he uses to bring about his good Designs, see his Letter to Mr. Masson. Adds that he has handed ab^t^ a little Manuscript con-

cerning the Defects of their Worship and Liturgies. And concludes that they are going this Winter to take new Measures for the Instruction of their Youth.

349. Mr. Ludolf from the Hague, 29 Sept., 1701, to y^e^ Secretary. Says y^t^ at Amsterdam he met w^th^ a very Pious Greek Merchant lately come from Persia by the way of Astracan, Moscow, and Archangel, who told him that the Muscovites have no new Patriarch as yet, and y^t^ the Russian Metropolites, have very much opposed him of Rezan from ascending to that Dignity, tho' he was a Person of Great Reputation for Learning and Piety. That the Czarevich or Eldest Son of the Czar is tutored by a Polonian who is a Discipie of y^e^ Jesuits, and y^t^ those People have at last got footing at Moscow, y^t^ they also caress exceedingly the Armenian A. B^p^, who is now at Paris, and y^t^ they have got severall young Grecians and Armenians into their Colledge, where there was a ꝑticular Foundation for training up Armenian Lads in the Romish interest and Religion, y^e^ increase of w^ch^ he Attributes to y^e^ Blind zeal among Protestants. That the Jew, y^t^ lead so many of his nation to Jerusalem, and y^t^ Preacht Repentance w^th^ an uncommon Method and Ability is dead there. That Mr. Pauli y^e^ Fifth-monarchyman, is putt into y^e^ Rasphouse at Amsterdam. That Mr. de Berringhen told him they are going to set up a Society at Berlin. That he hears a great caracter of y^e^ Portugueeze Convert, but y^t^ Molinos, the Spaniard, shows more Learning than Real Holinesse.

350. Mr. Vincent Edwards of Alnwick, in Northumberland, 30 Sept., 1701, to the Secretary. Desires the Society to send him 300 of each of the Papers against Swearing and Profanation of the Lord's Day. That they have had preaching at their monthly meetings for these last five months past, w^ch^ has been mostly at Alnwick. Lastly, y^t^ they have Justices in those parts on whose Company they can depend.

351. Mr. Jonathan Blackburn from Warrington, in Lancashire, 3 Octob., 1707, to the Secretary. Excuses his not answering the Societies Letter sooner, and wishes he may deserve the Caracter as has been given of him. That Mr. Shaw has engaged a Considerable number of y^e^ Inhabitants of Warrington into an Association ag^t^ Vice and Imorality, y^e^ good Effects of w^ch^ are: Y^t^ such as were addicted to swearing begin to leave it off, and Lastly y^t^ a great number of y^e^ common sort are much Reclaimed.

352. Mr. John Price, of Wrexham, in Denbyshire, 4 Oct., 1701, to the Secretary, says y^t^ he has made a Strict Enquiry after Boreman (a fellow y^t^ imposed on the L^d^ B^p^ of London and Dr. Bray, being a conceal'd Papist, in the Business of the Protestant Missions into N. America) but can't yet hear of him. That as to their Society they find y^e^ Gentry hearty and zealous enough in y^e^ matter of Schools, y^t^ he has one School set up already in his Parish, and a Promise of Subscriptions for more w^n^ they can have fit Persons to undertake the work, for y^t^ at present they are in great want of Persons thoroughly qualified for so good and necessary an employment.

353. Arch Deacon Booth of Easington, in Durham, 13 Oct., 1701

to the Secretary. Says y^t^ the Bp. of Durham sent lately for all the Constables in Town and gave y^m^ a Strict Charge to preserve good order in y^e^ City, and to discharge their Duty w^th^out Favor or Affection, y^t^ w^n^ he swore the New Mayor he order'd him to be vigilant in Suppressing Vice and Immorality, and to have a watchfull Eye over y^e^ Constables, and y^t^ his Lo^p^ has assur'd him y^t^ he will give as strict a Charge to all schoolmasters in relation to their scholars. That w^th^ such a second he hopes to reform the City of Durham, that he has gott a list of Publick houses in order to suppress such as are scandalous, and of such as frequent no Publick place of Worship, and ill Livers. That he has gott a List of honest Pious Persons to make Constables of. That y^e^ Mayor has promist zealously to assist him, as also another Gentleman of a Considerable Fortune that never acted as a Justice before. Wishes y^t^ the Arch Bp. of Canterbury would write to my Lord of Durham in commendation of w^t^ he has done. Lastly informs y^e^ Society y^t^ he shall hold his visitation ab^t^ a fortnight hence, and will readily receive such Instructions for his Clergy as the Society shall think fitt to give him.

354. Mr. Deffray of N. Rumny, in Kent, 9 October, 1701, to the Secretary. Excuses his not writing lately to the Society. Says he has recommended the great undertaking of promoting Christian knowledge to the reverend Mr. John Thomas, vicar of N. Rumny, who offers to subscribe 4s. yearly towards the business of the plantations, that their religions Society goes on to promote religion. And in opposing the growth of Anabaptism that the Clergy of the Society of Tenterden gives them encouragement but cannot gett the magistrates on their side, that they have also tryed to reclaim old offenders by printed papers and by letters but in vain. That they have set up a religious Society att Ashford, and another at Lymne, near Hithe, and Lastly that they have sett a box of Charity among their Societies in order to put out poor Children to School and hope to enter upon that work speedyly.

355. Mr. Thomas Todd of the Vaile in Jamaica, 1 July, 1701, to the Secretary. Sayes that he has received no letter this twelvemonth from the Society, to which he is sure he returned an answer signifying his readyness to comply with their proposals. That he has inclosed a copy to the articles agreed on by the Clergy of that Island. That he will shortly send an account of their Church affairs. Recommends the bearer as an object of Charity, &c.

356. Mr. Scherer, of St. Gall in Swiserland, 30 Septemb., 1701, to the Secretary. Excuses his not writeing sooner, being in his tour of the Grissons country together with Mr. Hales, and also dayly expecting the Latin Circular Letter to the Ministers of Zurich and of the other Protestant Cantons. That in their journey among the Grissons and Cantons of Glaris, Zurich, Schaffhausen, &c., they acquainted the respective Ministers with the designs of the Society and that the whole church of Swisserland was exceedingly rejoyced with their Message, as will more fully appear he sayes by the inclosed originall

Letters from the Reverend Dr. Wetienius, Rector of the University at Bazel, Mr. Zeller of Zurich, and Mr. Otto Grass of Losana [Lausanne?], to Mr. Robert Hales, whom they stile Baro after the title of his father (haveing no name for Esquire), according to the custom of their country, adds, that some raise doubts and scruples, which would absolutely vanish if the L^d B^p of London would please to signify his mind by one of his Secretaries, gives a great caracter from Hottinger[1] of the works of our English Divines, and particularly Instanced Jn. Bayly, Dyke, Hall, Perkins, Watson, &c., and owns the esteeme the English have reciprocally testified for his country men, as Zuinglius and Bullinger. That their magistrates distribute good Books to the poor, that there are many Societyes of late years set up in severall places of Germany, but that they do not subscribe to their Confessions, nor publish any of their own ; greatly commends the orthodoxy of the English societyes. Lastly concludes what great things their Consuls, the Antistes of their Church (well known to the L^d B^p of London) their pastors, &c., expect from the noble undertakings of the English society.

357. Mr. Frank, of Cranfield in Bedfordshire, 27 Octob., 1701, to the Secretary. Thanks the Society for Mr. Vallone's book which he intends to fix in the library at Bedford. Rejoyced to hear of their meeting again after a long suspention of business, says that he can geive but little account of the affairs of his country which are greatly retarded by publick divissions, that in his own parrish he has taken upon him the burden of overseer of the poor for the sake of the school by him erected the last year, that he has made it a kind of an hospital, that there are 12 poor children perfectly maintained, that they gett already halph their charges, and that as they improve in their work, and lessen their expenses they will encrease their numbers. That besides those 12 that are entirely provided for the overseers of the poor keep divers others at work and pay their masters, that all this is don by the private contributions of 6 or 7 of them, that the School is divided into two apartments and governed by 2 dames, that by this they are wholly freed from the poor children that used to beg in the streets. That they found it dificult to perswade the parents to part with their children, but where a family is chargeable to the parish insted of an allowance they take off one or more of their children.

358. Mr. W^m Portman, of Shelsy Beaucham, in Worcestershire, 28 Octob., 1701, to the Secretary. Owns the Receit of the first Circular Letter from the Society, and says that it was no little advantage to him in exciting several Eminent Persons in the City of Worcester to form themselves into a Society, consisting of several capital Citizens and Ministers, all of the Church of England, who agree to meet weekly, &c. That he hopes to set up 2 or 3 Societys in that City. That there are several in the Market Towns round ab^t

[1] J. H. Hottinger, D.D., a learned Orientalist, born at Zurich, 1620; drowned, 1667.

them, and that it is easy to see the hand of God is with them. He gratefully acknowledges the Assistance he has received from some Worthy Persons in London in unum necessarium, and ꝑtlcularly from the L^d B^p of London. Lastly signifies his great Readinesse of Joyning w^th the Society, &c.

359. Mr. Vincent Edwards, from Alnwick, Northumberland, 30 Octob., 1701, to the Secretary. Says that he is sorry the Society so farr understood his last Letter as to believe y^t he would beg of them the Pieces he sent for, because he did not expressly mention the reimbursing of them, and that he did not before imagin that the Society could have so mean an opinion of y^m as to think they had not the hearts to lay out so small a sum for Papers, &c. That they are broke up till y^e 25 Febr. And lastly, are glad to hear of the great progresses of the Society, &c.

360. Mr. Edw^d Killingworth, of Lilborne near Daventry, to the Secretary, 10 Nov., 1701. Says that the Piously Ingenious Letter of the Society has by Copies been communicated to many Divines, who were very well pleased w^th it. That as tokens of his zeal for the same cause he has sent Papers, *one to the Learned Deists, t'other to the Unlearned Infidels, about the Resurrection of our Saviour and the Credibility of the Scriptures;* that if the Society thinks fit to print them, he would not have them part w^th the Propriety to any Bookseller, &c. That he would write an Incouragem^t to Informers if the Society Judge it necessary, and desires to know what Sermons are printed upon y^t subject besides Dr. Woodward's, Jekyl's,[1] and Barton's. That the Neighbouring Clergymen give each other catalogues of their Books instead of Lending Libraries. That they have sent for 100 of B^p Williams's Catechisms. That they are endeavoring to set up prayers in week-days, too much neglected. That some Ministers distribute common Prayer-books and the Letter from a Minister to his Parrishioners. That the New-year's gift is very acceptable. That anything written ab^t Common Prayer, reading y^t Scriptures, y^e Religiousness of an Oath, Conversion, Observing y^e Lord's Day, ag^t Drunkennesse, &c., would be very welcom.

361. Arch Deacon Booth, of Easington near Durham, to the Secretary, 11 Nov., 1701. Says he hopes that the Letter which his Grace of Canterbury has promist to write to the B^p of Durham will have it's desired effect. That the Copies of his B^r Hales's Letters came safe to his hands, and desires to see such as have been lately received.

362. Mr. Anthony Smythe, of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, 12 Nov., 1701, to the Secretary. Excuses himself for not answering the Societies Letter sooner; says he has taken care about the Education of Children, and is ready to account for it. That he has caused Immoral

[1] Thos. Jekyl, D.D., Preacher at St. Margaret's, Westminster, author of "Popery the Mystery of Iniquity." London: 1681, &c.

and Profane Persons to be punisht; that his Direction for Packetts is by the Lincoln Carrier; that the Business of his Cure will hinder him from writing often; that he has Buried above an Hundred Persons since Lady-day last; that he has no Assistant; that he reads Prayers every day, and Preaches twice each Sunday.

363. Mr. R. Bynns, of Cheadle in Staffordshire, 18 Nov., 1701, to the Secretary. Says that he has received but 2 Letters from the Society; that his Letters come by the Stone bag; Carrier lies at the Swan with 2 Necks, in Lad-lane, and sets out every Munday for Newcastle. Lastly that he will take the Direction of his Diocesan in the Affaires recommended to him.

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